Gazetteer of India : Bihar

SHAHABAD

Bihar District Gazetteers

SHAHABAD

By

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PREFACE

The first *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* in the new series was edited by L. S. S. O'Malley, I.C.S., and published in 1906 O'Malley had largely drawn from Sir W W Hunter's Statistical Account of Bengal, Vol. XII published in 1877 and from various other official sources for the later period Shahabad District Gazetteer was re-edited by J. F. W. James, I C S, and was published in 1924 This book runs to 200 pages

The earlier series of the District Gazetteers although replete with facts and brilliantly written were meant more to be an Administrator's Handbook and suffered from a very limited objective In the last few decades there had been very many basic changes in the district and the country With the achievement of Independence we have now a Welfare State in place of a Police State The previous District Gazetteers are not easily available and would not have served much purpose either for giving a picture of the present times. They have, however, their great use as a landmark

In 1952, the Gazetteer Revision Branch in the Revenue Department was created by the initiative of Sri Krishna Ballabh Sahay as Revenue Minister Sri Krishna Ballabh Sahay is now the Chief Minister of Bihar This Branch is engaged in entirely re-writing and publishing the District Gazetteers From the very inception of this Branch I have been in sole charge of the work. The re-written District Gazetteer of Shahabad is my 15th book published in the new series The re-written District Gazetteers of Hazaribagh, Muzaffarpur, Gaya, Singhbhum, Saran, Champaran, Palamau, Monghyr, Purnea, Darbhanga, Bhagalpur, Dhanbad, Santal Parganas and Saharsa districts have already been published

Since 1955 the Central Government was seized with the need of re-writing the District Gazetteers in all the States of India on an uniform pattern as far as possible The Ministry of Scientific and Cultural Affairs, New Delhi, later took up the work of co-ordinating the new District Gazetteers in all the States of India and publishing four volumes of Central Gazetteers for India to replace the old Imperial Gazetteers The State Government of Bihar had agreed to work in collaboration with the Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs as far as possible. This Ministry has now merged with the Ministry of Education (Science) with whom we continue our collaboration. After the Central Government came into the picture, the

Headings and Contents were realigned. Our re-written Di: Gazetteers for Hazaribagh, Muzaffarpur, Gaya and Singhbl are according to a different pattern All the later Dis Gazetteers have followed the pattern laid down by the Cen Ministry as far as possible.

The work of re-writing the District Gazetteer for Shaha had its own problems The present day Officers in the positions have hardly any time for this type of work wh requires a certain amount of sustained labour, study a research. There has been no continuity of keeping an accou of all the events within the district and even important recor and reports are not always available. There is unfortunate a lamentable lack of reliable statistics in the District offices an very often unreliable statistics supplied from the District Office have to be rejected. The Shahabad District Welfare Office o the Welfare Department in the Secretariat could not give u reliable statistics of the break-up figures of the tribals and then whereabouts Bewildering contradictory agricultural statistic had often to be rejected. The march of events since 1947 has been extremely rapid and the enormous expansion of administrative offices at district and lower level has the tendency of catching the officers in a whirlpool unless they are very alert. Even the academicians are now mostly reluctant to help in this type of work. Those who have helped me from the district or outside are mostly my personal friends like the late Sri Satrunjay Prasad Singh who printed a brochure regarding Shahabad at my instance, Sri Kamar Ali Khan, a septuagenarian Advocate of Sasaram, Sri Adris Banerjee of the Archaeological Department of India, Prof. Radha Krishna Choudhury of G D. College, Begusarai, Shri S Roy, Deputy Director of National Archives of India, etc. I am much indebted to them

While help from the district level was very meagre, I was, however, fortunate in receiving help from other sources and in some cases they were unexpected. I am happy to mention that the National Archives, New Delhi, National Library, Calcutta, and the Asiatic Society of Bengal had continued giving me valuable help as before by loaning old records and reply to my queries very frequently. Some of the old records available in the District Record Room in Arrah and Patna were looked into For the later events I have had considerable help from various books, Census reports, manuscripts and had collected information from collaborators and personal investigations A certain amount of field work was done by my Research

..sistants under my guidance to appraise some of the develop- ..nt projects in the interior of the district This was necessary .. find out the actual role the district plays in the implementa- ..on of the Government policies regarding national planning ..nd community development The conclusions are personal and not to be taken at State level.

My thanks are due to the Editor, Gazetteers in the Ministry of Education (Science) who had looked into the drafts and offered some suggestions. For some of the photos I am indebted to Shri P. C. Singh of Bihar Civil Service. My gratitude is also due to many known and comparatively unknown people from whom I had always tried to draw information in the course of my tours. I am grateful for valuable suggestions from Shri S. K. Chakravarty, Revenue Secretary and Shri B C Patel, Revenue Minister They have both taken a great interest in this work and have helped but never fettered me.

A book of this type could only be produced by the pooling of resources, extensive tours, personal contacts, investigations and research I was twice posted to Shahabad district and I have had close association with the district since 1935 I have tried to produce a book for a very wide range of readers As it is known that seldom any one takes up a book of this type to read from the first page to the last, there has to be a certain amount of repetition to make the chapters self-sufficient I appreciate the privilege that I have had in continuing uninterrupted to do this work the value of which will increase with the passage of time. It is a pleasure to record that Bihar leads in re-writing and publishing the District Gazetteers with the minimum of staff throughout India. I have enjoyed doing this work and that is my reward.

PATNA .

P. C. ROY CHOUDHURY.

The 22nd July 1965.

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CHAPTER I.

GENERAL.

INTRODUCTORY.

Origin of the name.--The name Shahabad is probably associated with the Emperor Babar who had pitched his camp in Arrah in 1529 A.D., after his victory over the Afghan rulers of the province. The last District Gazetteer (1924) mentions that in commemoration of this event, the place was called Shahabad, or the city of the Emperor; and this name was applied subsequently to the *Sarkar* within which the town was included.

It is rather peculiar that there should be an inscription on an image at village Masar near Arrah, the area referred to as *Karusha desa* of the *Puranas* while the town of Arrah appears as Aram Nagar. This record is of 1819 A D This has particular interest because Buchanan Hamilton who visited the district in 1812-13 has mentioned the name of Shahabad A more ancient name of the area is not probably forthcoming as Shahabad was included in Magadha and did not have a separate entity. *Sarkar* Shahabad was a later creation in Mughal age

GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

The district of Shahabad which forms the western portion of the Patna Division, is situated between 24°31′ and 25°46′ north latitude, and between 83°19′ and 84°51′* east longitude. It contains a total area of 4,392.0† square miles with a population of 32,18,017. The principal civil station, which is also the most populous town in the district is Arrah situated in 25°34′ north latitude and 84°40′ east longitude.

BOUNDARY.

The district is bounded on the north by Ghazipur and Ballia in the Uttar Pradesh and by Saran in Bihar; on the east by the districts of Patna and Gaya, on the south by Palamau and, on the west by the districts of Mirzapur and Ghazipur in the Uttar Pradesh. On the north the boundary is marked by the Ganga and on the east by the Son, the two rivers uniting in the north-eastern corner of the district The Karamnasa is the boundary with the Uttar Pradesh on the west, from near its source to its junction with the Ganga near Chausa,

* *District Census Handbook, Shahabad*, 1951, mentions 84°15′ which appears to be misprint.

† *Census of India*, 1961, Volume IV, Bihar, Part II-A, General Population Tables, page 29

while the Son separates it from Palamau on the south. This district is bounded by rivers almost for the whole length of its perimeter, and only for a small distance of about 39 miles out of its whole perimeter of over 860 miles. Shahabad does not possess a natural barrier.

The History of the District as an Administrative Unit.

The existing district of Shahabad (except Chausa) formed, in 1685, part of the district of Shahabad and Rohtas. *Sarkar* Shahabad included the northern *Parganas* of the present district with the addition of the three *Parganas* on the west, Ratan, Kotha and Mangror, which were acquired at a later date by Balwant Singh of Benaras* and annexed to *Sarkar* Chunar The southern *Parganas* of the district, Chainpur, Sasaram and Rohtas were in *Sarkar* Rohtas which then included also Siris-Kutumba, Japla and Belaunja on the eastern bank of the Son.

In 1784, Rohtas district was separated The new district of Rohtas included Chainpur and Sasaram *Parganas* while the *Parganas* west of them across the Son up to and including the Tikari *zamindari* were formed into a separate district with headquarters at Gaya. Early in 1787, the Government of Lord Cornwallis decided to divide the country into collectorships of moderate size and proposed that the collections of a single district should not exceed Rs 5 lakhs. Zilla Rohtas was split up, its eastern portion forming part of the new district of Bihar while the western portion fell into Shahabad district with William Augustus Brooke as the first Collector. Sahabad district was then constituted of the area now included in the Shahabad district, without Chausa and with the addition of the Doaba *Pargana* on the northern bank of the Ganga. The new arrangement came into effect in July, 1787. Chausa *Pargana* became a part of the Shahabad district in 1818. Further details of the history of the district as an administrative unit have been given elsewhere.

The district has always formed a unit of the Patna Division. For administrative purposes the district is divided into four sub-divisions, viz, Arrah Sadar, Sasaram, Buxar and Bhabua. There are 11 revenue thanas within the district.

Natural Division.

As mentioned in the last *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) the district has three distinct regions.† The first consists of an extensive low-lying alluvial plain, forming the north of the district and lying between the river Ganga and the embankment of the main line of the Eastern Railway. This extends to the boundaries of the district on the east and west, and has been formed by the recession

* Now known as Varanasi.

† *Shahabad District Gazetteer* (1924), p. 2.

of the Ganga from its ancient course in a straight line from Arrah to Buxar. The low-lying lands lying along the Ganga are frequently flooded. This riparian tract well fertilised by the silt of the receding waters is one of the principal wheat-growing areas of Bihar.

The second region is a large tract that extends south of the railway to the foot of the plateau. This tract comprises an area of about three thousand square miles. This is also a flat country of tertiary and alluvial origin. It is for the most part very fertile, highly cultivated and densely populated. Its soil is generally a very tenacious clay intermixed with coarse sand; but on the east the soil is considerably lighter, and in the south towards the hills mould inter-mixed with ash is met with. This large tract is irrigated by an elaborate system of canals.

The third region is the hilly country, called the Kaimur plateau, which comprises about 800 square miles and extends along the southern boundary of the district in an undulating table-land, which at Rohtasgarh attains the height of 1,490 feet above the sea. Much of this tract is covered with rock and jungle and there is very little of cultivation. The soil yields poor and precarious crops and there is very little of irrigation. The population is very sparse. The boundaries of the hills, though well defined, are very irregular and often indented by the deep gorges scoured out by hill streams. Rising abruptly from the plains, their sides present sheer precipices with masses of debris at their feet; while their summits simulate a table of land broken by scores of saucer-shaped valleys, each a few miles in diameter, with a rich deposit of vegetable mould in the centre, which produces excellent paddy. They are an offshoot of the great Vindhyan range.

The description of this region in the records of the Geological Survey is as follows:—*

"The escarpments are everywhere lofty and bold, and the high lands west of Rohtas have an elevation varying from 1,000 to 1,400 feet. Their surface is uneven, being rocky, and covered with thick forest jungle; amongst the glades feed herds of cattle, which form the chief wealth of the inhabitants. The drainage which here as elsewhere is thrown north by the Vindhyan crest, falls by a series of waterfalls into the long winding gorges, which convey it to the alluvial plains of the Ganges.

"The most prominent features of the Vindhyan area are the numerous escarpments, which stamp it with a geographical character peculiarly its own The commonest form, where the lower portion of the scarp is shale, and the upper sandstone, exhibits an under-cliff of about 30° inclination, with a vertical precipice

* As quoted in the *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), page 3.

above, the relative dimensions depending chiefly on the ratio of shale to sandstone. When the latter is absent, the scarp preserves a uniform slope from top to bottom; while the boldest precipices are found where the scarp is entirely sandstone, the undercliff being then made up of a *talus* from above. Along some lines of scarp, outlying hills are very frequent, whose elevation is equal to, or greater than, that of the main scarp, according as the stratification is perfectly horizontal or dips gently from the spur. On such eminences, either wholly or semi-detached, have been constructed the hill forts which once played a prominent part in Indian history.

"The gorges, which receive the rivers after their descent from the plateau, should also be mentioned in a description of the physical aspect of the country. After a clear drop of two to six hundred feet, the water plashes into a deep pool, scooped out by its continual falling, on leaving which it runs through a channel obstructed throughout several miles of its course with huge masses of rock fallen from above. From each side of the stream rise the undercliffs of the escarpment, covered with jungle and tangled debris, and crowned by vertical precipices."

The Kaimur hills were described in the last *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) that they were "as wild and as remote from the world as ever" although the Grand Chord Line of the Eastern Railway ran a few miles from their northern scarp, and the Dehri-Rohtas Light Railway ran beneath the eastern face. This description is still substantially correct. The approach foot or pony track from Akbarpur to the top of Rohtas has been made less difficult. There is now a fair weather jeepable road from Bhagwanpur, south of Bhabua to Adhaura *via* Karar. Adhaura is now the headquarters of a tribal block. It has got electricity and a number of houses for the block headquarters. The track from Adhaura to Rehal and Rohtas is partially jeepable Carrier trucks from Mirzapur side can come to Adhaura with difficulty and only in fair weather. The Dehri-Rohtas Light Railway which previously terminated at Akbarpur has been extended up to Pipardih and Nauhatta which is the headquarters of a Block is now easily approachable being on the Dehri-Rohtas Light Railway.

The approach to the plateau is easier now through the *ghats* from Bhagwanpur to Adhaura *via* Karar. There are other tolerable ascents at Sarki near the south-western boundary, at Kariyari Khoh in the deep gorge north of Rohtas, at Ghora Ghat two miles south of Sasaram, and on the extreme west of the district where a *ghat* leads up to Chhanpathar.

Game, both large and small, is abundant, particularly on the western side of the plateau. The opening up of the area in the recent years has been responsible for some supplies being locally available and it will not be correct to agree with the comment in the last *District Gazetteer* (1924) that "no supplies of any kind are locally available". Although a number of wells have been sunk and springs *(chuans)* made more accessible it is difficult to get good water in most of the villages. The excellent grazing facilities still attract hundreds of cattle from a distance. Good *ghee* available in this area is taken by the middle men to the markets at Rehal, Akbarpur and Chenari Travelling is still difficult in most of the areas on the plateau. Many of the foot-hills are now being exploited for lime-stone and pyrites.

Much of the recent improvement in communications, etc, in this area is due to the sponsoring of Community Development Projects and the location of the Blocks with Bhagwanpur, Adhaura, Rohtas and Nauhatta as headquarters.

River System.

The district of Shahabad occupies the angle formed by the junction of the Son with the Ganga, but neither of these rivers any-where crosses the boundary There are several other minor streams which rise among the Kaimur hills and flow north towards the Ganga. The main rivers flowing past or in the district are described below —

The Ganga.

The Ganga forms the northern boundary of the district, separating it from Ghazipur, Ballia and Saran The following quota-tion from the last *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) is of interest·—*

"It first touches Shahabad near Chausa, where it is joined by the Karamnasa and then flows in a north-easterly direc-tion past Buxar, until it is north of the site occupied fifty years ago by Ballia town whence it curves to the south-east to Sapahi. There it again turns north-east for another great curve cutting into Ballia district, past Naimijor, turning again south-east to Lachmanpur. Hence it runs east by north-east until it leaves the district. Opposite Sinha begins the delta, marked by broad channels on each side, by which its great tributary the Gogra joins it from the north. Another great tributary, the Son, joins it as it leaves the district. Small tributaries which join it during its course by Shahabad district are the Thora, Juri, and Gangi, of which the latter is of some importance as forming the

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), pages 4—6.

outlet by which the Arrah canal joins the river. The description of this part of Bihar by the Chinese pilgrim Hiuen Tsiang, who visited India in the seventh century A.D., shows that the river formerly flowed much farther to the south than at present. The town of Masar, which in Hiuen Tsiang's time was close to the Ganges, is now ten miles away from it; but the high bank of the old bed can still be traced past Buxar, Bhojpur, Belauti, Bihia, Arrah and Koelwar.

"In the Buxar subdivision the banks, which are of hard gravel, are generally steep and abrupt, as the current strikes against them; but lower down, where the stream is deflected against the opposite bank, the slope is gradual. In many places they are composed of a schistose clay, which has an appearance similar to that of sandstone, but crumbles away very readily. The breadth of the stream in the dry season is generally from half to three-quarters of a mile but in the rainy season it is many times wider The river is then a mighty stream; and wherever it impinges upon the bank on either side, that bank is likely to be cut away While the main stream impinges upon one side, the stream on the other is comparatively sluggish, and detritus with which the water is heavily loaded is there deposited. The heaviest portion of the detritus is deposited first, so that the formation of these great *diaras* ordinarily begins with the deposit of a bank of sand The process is repeated in following seasons, with increasing friction from the sandbank already there, and silt is then deposited, forming cultivable land of great value. A rush is made to settle on this as the water subsides, on the principle that possession is nine-tenths of the law; and riots then are apt to occur, amounting to pitched battles between rival villages The proprietors who claim that the newly-formed land has become part of their estates by accretion, or that it is a reformation *in situ* of land formerly theirs which has been washed away, have opportunities for endless litigation, in which they have freely indulged. A large proportion of the leading cases on the subject of alluvial accretion have been concerned with these *diaras;* the great village of Sheopurdiar has more than its share of them, while others are concerned with the *diaras* of Nainijor, Umarpur and Parsanpa. There has been a steady thrust northwards during the last fifty years in the area immediately north of Dumraon, and the site at 25°44′ N., where the town of Ballia formerly stood, is now south of the river in Shahabad. The main stream

of the Ganges forms the boundary between Bihar and the United Provinces; and annually, after the fall of the river at the close of the rainy season, Deputy Collectors from each district go down the river by boat, marking the main stream on their *dhurdhura* map to define the civil and criminal jurisdictions. The revenue jurisdiction remains unchanged until villages are transferred from one province to another by formal notifications, a fact which is apt to produce legal complications, since revenue courts in the United Provinces exercise jurisdiction which in Bihar is vested in civil courts.*

"There is a large traffic on the river, and Chausa is of some importance still in this connection; but the steamers of the Indian Navigation and River Steam Navigation Companies no longer maintain their services beyond Buxar on the Ganges and Barhaj on the Gogra."

Since J. F. W James wrote the *Shahabad Gazetteer* (1924) there have been some significant changes The Ganges is now commonly known as the Ganga and the United Provinces is now the State of Uttar Pradesh The estates referred to in the quotation are now vested in the State but land disputes among the tenants continue The problem of the limits between the districts of Ballia in Uttar Pradesh and Shahabad has been rather acute in the recent years and the matter has been referred to the arbitration of Shri Chandulal Trivedi at the instance of the India Government

It has to be mentioned particularly that the Uttar Pradesh Government puts up a bridge of boats connecting Ram Rekha *ghat* of Buxar town with Sheopur *ghat* in Ballia district. During the flood season a steamer arranged by the Uttar Pradesh Government plies or there are big boats available The Indian Navigation and River Steam Navigation Companies have ceased their services since a few years back The steamers of this company used to go up to Rajmahal in Santal Parganas district and beyond. Occasionally private steamers now ply from one bank to the other or a little distance beyond. The Indo-Gangetic River Board is trying to tackle the problem of the gap by the cessation of the regular steamer services.

The Son.†

The river Son is also frequently mentioned as the Sone. The following description of the river is a quotation from the *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) with the only change of the name

* The matter has been under close investigation by both Bihar and Uttar Pradesh State Governments and the India Government (P. O. R. C).

† Also spelt as Sone.

Ganga in place of Ganges and the name Eastern Railway in place of the East Indian Railway:—

"The Son rises, near the sources of the Narbada and Mahanadi, on the elevated plateau of Central India. After a course of 325 miles through a high rocky tract, it enters this district at Kosdera near Jadunathpur, and flowing by the steep slopes and precipices of the Kaimur range, debouches upon the Gangetic valley at Akbarpur. It then runs a straight course of one hundred miles through the plains of South Bihar, and finally joins the sacred river ten miles north of Maner midway between Arrah and Dinapore During this portion of its course it attains a great width, which generally exceeds two miles, and opposite Tilothu amounts to three miles; and another peculiarity of these lower reaches is the height of the eastern bank, where the strong westerly winds which prevail from January till the breaking of the rains in June heap up the sand from the river bed to a height of twelve or fourteen feet above the level of the country, thus forming a natural embankment for many miles

"The Son bounds the district for 145 miles on the south and east It first touches on Shahabad near Kosdera, a place about 140 feet above the sea, and after gradually curving round the Kaimur hills on the west flows by Akbarpur forty feet lower. Proceeding to the north, it passes Dehri, Harihargani, Nanaur and Koelwar, where the East Indian Railway crosses it on a fine lattice girder bridge, and finally it falls into the Ganges opposite Dariaganj in Saran. Opposite Hankarpur it is joined by the river Koel from Palamau, and at Dehri it is crossed by the massive masonry dam which supplies a head for the Son Canals, and by the great bridge over which runs the Grand Chord line of the Indian Railway. The most noticeable features of this portion of its course are its meagre stream of water at ordinary times as compared with the enormous breadth of the river bed, its vast size and its paroxysmal violence at periods of flood. Seen in the dry season, about April or May, the bed presents a wide stretch of drifting sand with an insignificant stream of water, barely a hundred yards wide, meandering from bank to bank, and fordable in most places. But in the rainy season, especially just after a storm has burst on the plateau of Central India, the river presents an extraordinary contrast. It drains a hill area of 21,300 square miles, a tract about four times as extensive as the

district of Shahabad; the entire rainfall of this enormous catchment basin has to find an outlet by this channel and after heavy rain the river rises with incredible rapidity The channel frequently proves unable to carry off the total flood discharge, amounting to 8,30,000 cubic feet per second, and the flood waters rush down so violently as to spill over its broad bed and cause disastrous inundations in the low-lying plains of Shahabad These heavy floods are, however, of short duration, hardly ever lasting more than four days, after which the river rapidly sinks to its usual level

"The Son receives no tributaries of any importance from the point where it enters the district up to Dehri, where its waters are distributed east to the Gaya and Patna districts and west to Shahabad through the great irrigation system of the Son Canals, and between Dehri and its junction with the Ganges the drainage sets away from it, so that no stream can join it north of that place. Old beds are numerous, but they are principally found on the eastern bank in the districts of Gaya and Patna. One such bed, however, runs in this district from Telkap, it is very obscurely marked, but apparently rejoins the present channel at the depression near Amiawar, a short distance south of Nasriganj In the later years of the nineteenth century the Son shifted its course a little, and several villages, three miles north of Koelwar, were swept away, while accretions formed on the opposite bank

"The bed of the Son consists almost entirely of sand, but in a few parts clay is found and cultivated Nodular limestone is obtained in several places, and the trial wells sunk during the construction of the Koelwar bridge disclosed a thick stratum of that substance below the sand Below the junction of the Koel a species of small pebbles or agates is found, many of which are ornamental, and take a good polish; most of them consist of silica, both opaque and diaphanous, of a reddish or dark green tinge In the *Ain-i-Akbari* the Son is said to have the power of petrifying substances thrown into it and to contain many *saligram* stones.

"During the dry season there are many fords, but ferry boats generally ply for eight months in the year. The fall of the river bed below Akbarpur varies only from 1.75 to 2.80 feet a mile, but at several places above Dehri rocks and rapids effectually stop river traffic. In its lower reaches also navigation is intermittent and of little

commercial importance. In the rainy season country boats of large tonnage occasionally proceed for a short distance upstream under favourable circumstances of wind and flood; but navigation is rendered dangerous by the extraordinary violence of the floods, and during the rest of the year is impossible for any but small boats owing to the small depth of water. The principal traffic is in bamboos and timber. The former are floated down, bound into rafts consisting of ten thousand or more lashed together—a tedious process in the dry weather, as they are constantly grounding, and the many windings of the stream render their progress extremely slow.

"The Son possesses historical interest as being identical with the Erannoboas, which is mentioned by Megasthenes as the third river in all India and inferior to none but the Indus and Ganges. Erannoboas is evidently a Hellenised form of the Sanskrit *Hiranyabahu* or golden-armed, a name formerly given to the river and apparently derived from the ruddy-coloured sand it brings down in flood. It formerly flowed far to the east and joined the Ganges near Fatuha in Patna district; and the ancient town of Pataliputra (corresponding to the modern Patna) was situated at its confluence with the Ganges. It has gradually receded further westwards and made fresh channels for itself. Old river beds have been found between Bankipore and Dinapore, and Mr. Twining, who was Collector of Shahabad in 1801—1804, mentions that in his time the river broke through the eastern bank in high flood, and flowing along what was recognised as its old channel, inundated the cantonment of Dinapore. In the *Ain-i-Akbari* it is said to have joined the Ganges at Maner, and in Rennell's *Bengal Atlas of* 1772 the junction is marked at the same place. In Buchanan's time, however (1812), the Son flowed into the Ganges three miles about Maner, and it now joins that river about ten miles higher up."*

The river Son although runs dry for months is of greater economic utility to the district than the other rivers because of the Son canals. The anicut at Dehri and the canals with its headworks at Dehri are going to be reoriented. The Son Barrage scheme is already taken into hand and a description has been given in the text on Irrigation.

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), pages 8—9.

The Son river is still unbridged and a mighty bridge will also be soon an accomplished fact. This will be of very great advantage to the motorists and the goods traffic transplanted by carrier trucks. Son river has a Railway-*cum*-Road bridge at Koilwar at present.

The Son bed at Dehri has a large turnover of business in timber and bamboos and a much smaller turnover of similar business at Koilwar.

The Karamnasa.

The Karamnasa rises on the eastern ridge of the plateau in the Kaimur hills, whence it flows in a north-westerly direction into what was Benares State before in Uttar Pradesh Near Darihara it becomes the boundary line with Mirzapur district (Uttar Pradesh) which it enters near Kuluha For about 15 miles it flows through Mirzapur and then enters Shahabad forming the boundary of the district till it falls into the Ganga river near Chausa having been joined by Durgauti river.

As mentioned in the last Gazetteer (1924) the Karamnasa descends from the plateau at the Chhanpathar by a fall of three hundred feet of which the lower portion, one hundred feet high, is perpendicular This is a very fine waterfall in Shahabad district, but the velocity and volume of water has been much lessened by the diversion of much of the water for irrigation purposes while the river is in Uttar Pradesh. It flows out to the plains through a precipitous gorge, spreading out to a considerable width in the level country, cutting a deep bed through a deep clay, very retentive of moisture. The river runs almost dry after February but boats ply on it during the rainy season.

It is a legendary river. The last *District Gazetteer* (1924) mentions:

"This river is held by Hindus in the utmost abhorrence and is regarded by them as an accursed stream. In the *Tuzak-i-Babari* (1529 A.D) we are informed that when Babar came to the river in his expedition against Bihar, the pious Hindus refused to pass it, and, in order to avoid its unholy waters, embarked in a boat and crossed by the Ganges. Its impurity is connected with the following legends.—Raja Trisangku, of the Solar line, married the step mother of a Brahman whom he had murdered and was purified from his sin only by bathing in water collected by a saint from all the streams in the world; this water, still polluted by his crime, now flows from the spring in which the Karamnasa rises. Another local legend accounts for

the abhorrence of this river in a somewhat different manner. It relates how Raja Trisangku, being anxious to ascend to heaven in his human form, went to Vasistha, his *guru* or spiritual guide, and asked him to perform some religious rite by which his wish might be fulfilled. Vasistha replied that he was forbidden by the Sastras to offer such an indignity to the gods. Raja Trisangku went with the same request to Vasistha's sons, but they likewise rejected it, and, learning that he had not taken their father's refusal as final, cursed him and reduced him to the impure condition of a Chandal. In this degraded state, however, he succeeded in gaining the pity and favour of another holy man, Vishwamitra Rishi, who listened to his petition and despatched him to heaven. The gods, incensed at his insolence and impurity, cast him head foremost down again, but as he fell he cried out for help and was stopped by Vishwamitra in mid-air. Thereupon some saliva dropped from his mouth on the earth and formed the source of the Karamnasa Several other similar legends are current, but the most probable explanation of the uncleanness of this stream in Hindu eyes is that it long formed the boundary between the orthodox region of Brahmanism, whose centre was at Benares, and the heretic country of Magadha, the home of Buddhism for many centuries. There is nothing in the composition of the water itself to account for its unholiness, but no high-caste Hindu, except those who live on its banks, will even now-a days drink or touch it. By the latter it is used freely and without a scruple for all purposes, and they have invented a simple explanation of their disregard of the ancient prejudice of their co-religionists. The word Karamnasa is derived from the Sanskrit *Karma* (an action) and the root *nas* (to destroy), the whole word signifying the annihilation of all good deeds: but the *pandits* of its riparian villages declare that its true name was Kukarmanasa (*Ku* meaning evil) and that its stream is purifying and destructive of bad deeds. At the present time, even the strictest Hindus do not consider any ceremony of purification necessary after touching the Karamnasa because the idea is that it does not in itself defile but only washes away all previous righteousness."*

Karamnasa will probably be soon utilised for a major irrigation project. The scheme is reported to be under investigation (1964).

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), pages 9-10.

The Kao

The description of this river in the last *District Gazetteer* stands good and is quoted below:—

"The Kao or Dhoba rises on the plateau six miles south-west of Tilothu, and, after flowing through a glen in a northerly direction, forms a fine waterfall, and enters the plains at the Tarachandi pass, two miles south-east of Sasaram At this place it bifurcates; one branch, the Kudra, turns to the west and ultimately joins the Karamnasa, while the other, which preserves the name Kao, flows to the north, and finally falls into the Ganges, near Gaighat There is very little water in its bed during the cold and hot seasons but in the rains it is subject to floods of the most violent character At Bichia it is crossed by the Main Western Canal, underneath which it is conveyed by means of a syphon of twenty-five arches, which has a waterway of nine hundred square feet and is a cause of much anxiety during freshets. In the hilly portion of its course the bed is rocky and full of enormous boulders washed down during heavy rains. The banks are generally high and firm, but in the plains are less elevated The river, which is nowhere navigable, except at flood-time as far as the railway line, is the principal drainage channel of the southern and central parts of the district "*

The waters are now in good use for irrigation purpose The Kao irrigation project has already been completed. It has cost 2.86 lakhs of rupees.

The Kudra

The description of the Kudra river and the legend associated with it in the last *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* are quoted below —

"The Kudra, as already explained, is a branch of the Kao, and carry off the overflow of that river when it rises in flood. After leaving the Tarachandi pass near Sasaram, it is swollen by a number of small streams, and, flowing in a north-easterly direction, crosses the Grand Trunk Road at Khurmabad and falls into the Durgauti at Tendwa after a course of fifty miles In the dry season it contains very little water, but during the rains a large stream passes down it The bed is rocky and full of enormous boulders until the river has fairly debouched into the plains, after which it

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), page 11.

varies according to the character of the soil through which it passes. According to local tradition, the origin of the Kudra is as follows:—A powerful Brahman zamindar, who owned large estates near Kargahar, came down with a large following to the Tarachandi pass, and, after defeating the local levies, proceeded to excavate a new channel from the Kao river to his own domains. This channel was called the Kudra because it was excavated with *Kudaris*, and it is noticeable that an old bed of the Kudra is still to be seen passing northwards towards Kargahar. Legends of this great battle still linger among the people, who say that such a vast number of Brahmans were slain that over a maund of sacred thread was collected from their dead bodies."*

The river is now utilised for irrigation purposes.

The Durgauti.

The last *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) mentions as follows:—

"The Durgauti rises in the village of Bhakma, on the southern ridge of the Kaimur plateau, a few miles north of the Karamnasa. For about nine miles it pursues a northerly course, being joined by some unimportant hill streams, after which it rushes over a precipice three hundred feet high into the deep glen of Kadhar Kholi, where other hill torrents help to swell its volume. After passing by the stalactite caves of Gupteswar and the hill fortress of Shergarh, it enters the plains at Karamchat and makes for Jahanabad, eight miles north, on the Grand Trunk Road. Here it runs to the north-west, running parallel to the road for twenty-two miles, until it crosses it near Sawath, where it bends towards the north-east and falls into the Karamnasa, after receiving the Kudra from the east. The Durgauti drains an area on the plateau of about two hundred square miles. In the upper part of its course it has a rocky channel, with a clear and rapid stream not more than thirty feet wide; but, after it enters the plains, it is wider, and at Jahanabad it attains a breadth varying from thirty to forty yards. The river-bed in the plains is sandy, mixed here and there with nodular limestone, which is largely quarried and used in repairing the Grand Trunk Road. It contains water all the

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), page 11.

> year round; and during the rains boats of forty maunds' burthen can navigate it fifty or sixty miles from its mouth."*

There is now a very fine road bridge on Durgauti river. This river has been responsible for some severe floods in the recent past. Durgauti river waters are also used largely for irrigation purposes. The Durgauti irrigation project has already been completed and the estimated cost is Rs. 32.16 lakhs of rupees.

The Shuara.

As mentioned in the *District Gazetteer* (1924):

> "The principal tributaries of the Durgauti are the Shuara, Kora, Gonhua and Kudra.
>
> "The Shuara rises near the village of Dahai, on the plateau, and falls into the Lal Kakand or Red Pool, at Makri Khoh. As it proceeds it receives a number of affluents, the principal of which are the streams of the Kandan Khoh and Jawar Khoh It debouches on the plains six miles south of the town of Bhabhua, which it leaves about a mile on the east, finally falling into the Durgauti after a course of about twenty-five miles. Its bed is pebbly in the hills and sandy in the plains, and nodular limestone is largely quarried from it. In the rains, boats of a hundred maunds' burthen can ply up to the foot of the hills."*

The Shuara waters have been tapped by an irrigation scheme with an estimated cost of 15 50 lacs of rupees. The project has been completed

LAKES, TANKS AND SPRINGS.

There are no natural lakes in this district. A number of tanks are scattered throughout the district. Many of them have now got filled up and are under reclamation. Some natural depressions which used to store water and attract birds like the one near Dumraon are under cultivation. In the hilly regions there are some springs which serve a great purpose in an area where water resources are scarce. The water of some of the springs get into natural reservoirs and some of them are in beauty spots and have been noticed elsewhere.

GEOLOGY.

The report on Geology in the last *District Gazetteer* remains basically correct and is quoted below. There is a separate treatment under the sub-section of "Economic Geology and Mineral Resources" giving the picture now of the exploitation of the resources particularly and there will be slight repetitions.

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* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), page 12

The last Gazetteer mentions:—*

"Throughout the greater part of the district the rocks are hidden by the alluvium of the Ganges, and, except for some small hillocks about ten miles north of Sasaram, there are no rocks exposed north of 25° north latitude. The portion of the district situated south of that parallel, including the southern portion of the Sasaram and Bhabhua subdivisions, is mostly a plateau bounded by steep scarps. This plateau is the easternmost termination of one of the most pronounced geographical and geological features of India, the vast area constituting the Vindhyan table-land. Of the numerous stratigraphical subdivisions constituting the great Vindhyan system, only three are conspicuous in this district They are, by order of superposition, the Kaimur sandstone, the Bijaigarh shales, and the Rohtas limestone

"The uppermost of these subdivisions, the Kaimur sandstone, occupies the greatest superficies. It covers the greater portion of the table-land, and along its southern and south-western borders forms the upper portion of the precipitous escarpments that overlook the Son. while along its northern edge it constitutes the whole height of the cliffs down to their base where they meet the Ganges alluvium. The Kaimur sandstone constitutes an excellent building material, and has been largely quarried at Karaundia and Dhaudhanr near Sasaram, whence it has been conveyed to Dehri to be utilised in the works connected with the Son Canals. There are also quarries of a very evenly-bedded rock at Pateswar, a detached hill close to the northern escarpment of the table-land, 8 miles west of Chainpur.

"The Bijaigarh shales and Rohtas limestone form the under-cliff facing the Son along the southern and south-eastern edges of the Kaimur outcrop, and are also seen, further north, in the deep river gorges like those of the Durgauti, where they cut through the anticlinal axes of the shallow corrugations which, striking a little north of east, help to diversify the surface of this eastern termination of the great Kaimur plateau. The Rohtas limestone, whose aggregate thickness is about five feet, is a very fine-grained, evenly-bedded rock, largely burnt for lime; and some of the beds can be used as lithographic stone. It is in this limestone that the sacred Gupteswar caves of the Durgauti valley

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) pages 12—14.

are found The Bijaigarh shales, about 150 feet thick, are intensely brittle and splintery, and are frequently so black in colour as to be easily mistaken for coal. They are often impregnated with iron pyrites and have been used to a small extent to manufacture sulphate of iron In the Durgauti valley and other northern inliers, as also south-east of Khadar, the Bijaigarh shales rest directly upon the Rohtas limestone, but along the southern scarp there intervene a subsidiary sandstone and shale known as the Lower Kaimur sandstone and Rohtas shale. Sometimes an additional thin band of limestone is intercalated between the Rohtas shale and Lower Kaimur sandstone.

"South-west of Rohtasgarh, in the low ground intervening between the foot of the scarp and the bank of the Son, some of the Vindhyan subdivisions underlying the Rohtas limestone are seen for a short distance. The most interesting are some ancient volcanic beds remarkable for their porcellanic texture The isolated low hills north of Sasaram consist of a very coarse quartzose and felspathic sandstone, containing abundant rounded pebbles of a red felspathic rock and quartz. Being surrounded on all sides by alluvium, their relations to the other rocks cannot be clearly made out, they may be the basement beds of the Vindhyan formation, or else connected with the Kaimur sandstone."*

ECONOMIC GEOLOGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES.

Bihar is the richest province in India as far as occurrences of diverse minerals and their monetary value are concerned Shahabad district holds the same position in the case of limestone in the Province and the new find of extensive Iron Pyrite The geology of the district is very simple. We get, besides the alluvium of Gangetic plain and Sone Valley. rocks of Vindhyan age, confined to a smaller area in the extreme south-western portion of the district, between Sasaram and Sone river, forming the eastern end of the Kaimur plateau These Vindhyan rocks consist of sandstone, quartrites, limestones. dolomitic limestones and shales. The rocks are generally horizontal, except for some folding affecting limestones

* The account of the geology of the district has been contributed by Mr. E. Vredenburg Superintendent, Geological Survey of India Further details will be found in "The Vindhyan' Series" by F R. Mallet (Memoirs of the Geological Survey of India, Vol. VII, part I) and "The Volcanic Rocks of the Lower Vindhyan Series, by Mr. E. Vredenburg (Memoirs, Vol. XXXI, Part I).

and crop out as precipitous scarps around the edge of Kaimur plateau. The following is the sequence of the Vindhyan rocks of the district with average thicknesses:—

Kaimur series—Upper Kaimur Sandstones 600 feet, top not seen; Bijaigarh Shales and quartzites 200 feet; Lower Kaimur sandstones 150 feet.

Semri series—Rohtas Limestone 500 feet. Base observed Kheinjua stage—Thickness not known. Porcellanic stage?

There is a relation between mineral deposits of an area with its geology and as such the Vindhyan system of the district is expected to contain the following minerals of economic importance, viz., Limestone, Sandstone, Shale, Glass-sand and Iron Pyrite. Minerals of lesser importance are Dolomite, mineral pigments, Ammonium Sulphate, Saltpetre and Sodium salts

An outline of the occurrences of different minerals is given below:—

(1) *Abrasives.*—There are no other abrasives available in the district except some triable sandstones of Vindhyan age along the Son valley, west of Dehri-on-Sone and south of latitude 24°50′ which could be easily crushed and used for cutting, polishing and varnishing

Sandstones of fine grain, even texture for use as Grindstones, sharpening hones and mill stones may be obtained from Vindhyan sandstones of the district

Quartzites of fine grained texture are also available for use as millstones and sharpening hones in the Vindhya.

Porcelain which is an extremely fine-grained siliceous rock is ideal for use as hones as sharpening stone. So far no detailed search has been made for above type of useful stone in the district.

(2) *Alkali Salts*—The Alkali salts include Potassium Nitrate and Saltpetre, Sodium carbonate and Sodium Sulphate. Only a small quantity of saltpetre is produced in Shahabad district

(3) *Building Materials.*—Shahabad district is fortunate in having varieties of building materials, viz., alluvial clays, sands, gravel, sandstone, quartzites and limestones for lime and cement manufacture—

(*a*) *Building clays.*—These are alluvial deposits widely distributed in the district utilised for manufacture of bricks and tiles.

(b) *Building stones.*—Excellent fine-grained sandstones are available in the Vindhyan rocks of the Kaimur hills in the district. These provide the best building stones in the province. They occur in massive beds permitting extraction of large blocks. Their colour is generally pale red to grey, some are banded or mottled. These sandstones have been extensively used in the buildings of Rohtas Fort and other buildings in Sasaram. There is little use made these days from the small quarries at Karwandia, Tarachandi and Barhaibagh This building stone industry has diminished largely due to present day trend for stream-lined R C. C. structures.

The sand used for the construction of buildings is obtained from the different rivers flowing through the district. The two most important sand-*ghats* in the district are at Koilwar and at Kudra.

(4) *Limestones.*—This is one of the most useful raw materials and mainly used for manufacture of lime and cement. The earliest quarrying for limestone was done in the year 1847 in Vindhyan limestones near Rohtasgarh. Since those days lime burning industry has greatly increased in the district Main centres for lime are Banjari and Dehri-on-Sone where a number of lime-kilns exist and meet the demand of the province and to some extent of West Bengal Besides there are number of factories producing Portland Cement at Dalmianagar, Kalayanpur and Japla (in Palamau district using Shahabad limestone).

All the above required limestone comes from the Rohtas stage of lower Vindhya of the district These limestones crop out along the left bank of the Sone river in the lower slopes of the Kaimur scarp and the length of the outcrop is about 45 miles, neglecting the embankments in the scarp. The full sequence of the limestone is not exposed but good exposures are seen in Chotia Pahar in Pipardih Mahal where a thickness of about 700′ is exposed. This area is in the basal portion and exposes a thick bedded limestone of good quality having a thickness of about 60′ and is topped by 10′ of nodular limestone. Above this there is about 180′ of thin bedded shales and then a 30′ thick limestone. This 30′ limestone extends eastwards and is seen at the base of the hill slopes at Chunhatta (24°36′ 83°52′), Baulia (24°36′ · 83°55′), Banjari (24°41′ : 83°59′) and Murli Hills. On account of gentle northward dip of the Vindhyan rocks, the Rohtas limestone becomes progressively overlapped and drowned by Alluvium. Limestone of top portion of Rohtas stage also occurs in patches at Dumarkhar and Kauriari. On account of variable dips and the disturbance of true

dips by surface creep, it is not easy to determine the depth range at which the best limestones for the manufacture of cement occur below the lower Kaimur sandstone.

For cement manufacture there are large reserves of limestone available in Chunhatta quarries. The reserves of limestone in Murli Hills and Kauriari are very limited and fast depleting But there are large reserves of good limestone in the localities named Dabua-Jatahara, Chetia Pahar and Gatiahi and sufficient to meet all the requirements of cement industry of the district. Effort should be made to develop new limestone finds in Pipardih Mahal and the vicinity. This is now being done.

(5) *Mineral Pigments*.—Natural mineral pigments expected to occur in the district are (*i*) Red ochre consisting of a clay base with red ferric oxide and (*ii*) Red oxide which is soft ferric oxide with little or no clay base.

In the district some ochre is reported to occur on the Kaimur plateau at Madda (24°38′ : 83°30′) and Chathans (24°38′ . 83°40′) Such deposits require further investigation.

(6) *Refractory minerals*.—The only refractory mineral reported in the district is dolomite. True dolomite should contain equal molecular proportion of 45.65% Mg CO_3 and 54.35% Ca CO_3, but usually the proportion of Ca CO_3 is greater. In the Rohtas stage of Shahabad district a hard dolomitic limestone is reported to occur near Banjari and also at Kauriari. The thickness of this dolomitic bank is about 3′ and it contains about 35% Mg CO_3 and can be used as a refractory material in the form of bricks or as a plaster in basic open-hearth furnaces and in Bessemer converters. These dolomitic occurrences require investigation for their available reserves and their utilisation as refractory.

(7) *Glass-making materials*.—The principal constituents used in the manufacture of glass are (*i*) Silica, (*ii*) Soda Ash or Salt Cake, (*iii*) Limestone, (*iv*) Borax, (*v*) Manganese dioxide and other decolorizers and colouring agents.

Silica which is the main constituent should be free from other impurities specially iron oxide which should not exceed 0.02% for colourless glass. Sand grains also should average 0.4 mm in diameter.

Some of the Vindhyan standstones are a possible source of glass sand. The top stage of the upper Kaimur sandstones has some white quartzites, which form the top of Kaimur plateau in Shahabad district. It is also considered that part of the Lower Kaimur sandstone along the Sone valley west of Dehri-on-Sone and south of

latitude 24°50′ is also a potential glass sand rock. This sandstone, over quite a wide area, is white in colour and has been extensively desilicated, thus rendering it friable so that it is easily crushed. The rock is even grained and occurs just above the Rohtas limestone. These require proper investigation in order to ascertain its suitability for glass-making. If good extensive suitable sandstones are located, there should be a good scope for starting glass industry in the district

(8) *Sulphur.*—Sulphur occurs in the district in the form of Iron Pyrites. Much work has been done by the Geological Survey of India and the deposits have offered hopes of commercial success.

Iron Pyrite occurs in black carbonaceous Bijaigarh shales of Kaimur series, within about 30 feet from the base of upper Kaimur sandstones. These shales occur half way up the scarp slopes of the Kaimur plateau on the left bank of Son river east of longitude 84°0′ and south of latitude 24°50′ Usually pyrite occurs as small scattered crystals but at places the concentration is heavier.

The best seam of Pyrite occurs by a tributary of the Amjhor, three miles from Banjari at the position 24°43′ 15″. 83°58′ 45″. The thickness here is about 2 feet 6 inches and it occurs about 20 feet below the top of the black shales and has been exposed for 120 feet along the outcrop and about 115 feet into the hill. A gallery driven here up to a distance of 400 feet has passed through pyrite band The seam is practically horizontal with perhaps a slight inclination to west. The Sulphur content is about 35%.

Besides the above pyrite band is also seen at Kasisya Khoh (24°41′. 83°53′) about 8 miles from Rohtas Railway station having thickness of 2 feet. Another exposure is seen at Yogyaman Khoh but the thickness here is only 4 to 6 inches The third outcrop is in Barushals about 2 feet thick. There are further traces in far removed localities, namely Mahadeo Khoh. Indications of the Pyrites are given by a porous red cindery exudation product or a dense growth of white feathery crystals of ferrous sulphate. Such indications are usually to be found near nalas and below waterfalls at the foot of the Kaimur scarp.

There are good reasons to believe that the Iron pyrite occurs extensively in the Shahabad district and it is desirable that the pyrite occurrences are properly prospected and opened up to ascertain if there are sufficient reserves for starting and maintaining an industry for the manufacture of sulphuric acid This work has now been taken up with Amjhor as the centre.

The annual income from mines and minerals in the district of Shahabad is to the tune of rupees ten lakhs, and about eighty per cent of this amount comes from the limestone quarries.

List of some important quarries and mines existing in district Shahabad.*

Government Khas Mahal Zamindari.

Name of quarries	Area in acres.	Name of the lessee.
1. Bhangia Gurisoti Quarry.	64.08	M/s. Sone Valley Portland Coy., Limited.
2. Rohtas Fort Block II (Kamal Khairwa).	65 00	Ditto.
3. Rohtas Fort Block I	139 94	Ditto.
4. Lower Bharuhi	127.67	Mr J K Patel.
5. Upper Bharuhi	37 00	M/s. New Limestone Comp
Total	433 69	

In Banskatti Mahal.

1 Banjari Quarry	31.04	M/s. Dehri Lime Company.
2. Bajidpur Quarry	30.12	B Sukhuram Singh.
3. Kalyanpore Quarry	101.12	M/s. Kalyanpur Lime and Cement Work, Ltd.
4 Banjari Quarry	47.59	Ditto.
5. Labuia Quarry	76 93	Ditto.
6 Kasiawan Quarry	39 48	B. Sukhuram Singh.
7 Basarhi Quarry	14 50	Mr Mohamed Ali
8. Kauriari	500.00	M/s. Dalmia Jain & Co., Ltd
Total	840 78	

In Banskatti Mahal worked by the State, i e , landlords.

1. Upper Murli Hill Quarries	137.0	By the State through the Agent.
2. Lower Murli Hill Quarries.	82.76	Ditto
Total	219.76	

* Supplied by the office of the District Magistrate. There is no Khas Mahal now. The list came sometime back and there may have been changes in the names of the lessees (P. C. R. C.).

IN ESTATES VESTED INTO GOVERNMENT UNDER L. R. ACT.

(a) Sonepura Estate.

Name of quarries	Area in	Name of the lessee.
(i) Fajdhar Quarry	75.00 acres	M|s. Rohtas Quarries, Ltd.
(ii)* Bharwa villages, etc.	4 sq. miles	M|s. Dalmia Jain & Co., Ltd.
(iii) Ulli Banahi etc.	4 sq. miles	Ditto.
(iv) Chunhatta Quarries	663.00 acres	M|s. Sone Valley Portland Cement Co., Ltd.
(v) Mahadeo Khoh Quarries.	75.08 acres	Ditto
(vi) New area	5,306.00 acres	Ditto.
(vii) Mahiaon	.	Sri B. K. Dutta.
TOTAL	8 sq. miles and 6,119 08 acres	

(b) Dumraon Estate

(1) Dumarkhar Quarries	19 sq. miles.	M|s. Rohtas Industries, Ltd.
TOTAL	19 sq miles.	

In private estates

1. Dumarkhar Quarries.	1½ sq. miles	M|s. Rohtas Industries, Ltd.
2 Rampur Quarries	500 acres	M|s. R. P. Sinha & Sons Co., Ltd.
TOTAL	1½ sq. miles and 500 acres	

In private estates worked by landlord himself.

1. Kuchwar Quarries	118.06 acres limestone.
2. Amjhor mines	2.26 acres iron pyrites.

* No landlords now (P. C. R. C.).

Botany.

The *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) mentions:—

"The alluvial and highly-cultivated country which forms the greater portion of the district presents in its botanical features a great contrast to the wild hilly tracts to the South. In the former sugarcane, wheat, rice and a great variety of other food-crops are extensively grown; the area under cultivation is bare or dotted over with clumps of bamboos and mango orchards, while the villages are frequently surrounded by groves of palmyra (*borassus flabelliformis*) and date palm (*phœnix sylvestris*). Numerous more isolated examples of *tamarindus, odina, sapindus* and *moringa* also occur, associated with which one frequently finds in village shrubberies, *glycosmis, clerodendron, solanum, jatropha, trema, streblus* and similar semi-spontaneous and more or less useful species. In the rice fields which cover the low lying lands near the Ganges, the usual weeds of such localities are found, such as *ammannia, utricularia, hygrophila* and *sesbania*. Further from the river a dry scrub jungle is sometimes met with, of which the principal species are euphorbiaceous shrubs *butea* and other leguminous trees, and various examples of *ficus, schleichera, wendlandia and gmelina*. The grasses clothing the drier parts are generally of a coarse character, such as *andropogon contortus, aciculatus annulatus, foveolatus* and *pertusus, aristida adscensionis, tragus racemosus iseilema laxum*, various *anthistiria*, and *sabai* grass (*ischoemum angustifolium*). Throughout the alluvial country which stretches to the foot of the hills the *pipal* (*ficus religiosa*) and banyan (*ficus indica*) are common; the other principal trees growing in this area are the *bel* (*aegle marmelos*), *nim* (*melia azadirachta*), *siris mimosa sirissa*), and jack fruit tree (*artocarpus integrifolia*).

"In the Kaimur hills, which with their outlying spurs occupy the southern portion of the district, a different class of vegetation exists. Though now to a great extent denuded of their best timber, they are still largely covered with forest growth, while their slopes are densely clothed with jungle. On the plateau there is long grass, chiefly spear-grass, *kus* (*poa cynosuroides*), the *khaskhas* (*andropogon muricatus*), trees of *diospyros* and *terminalia*, and here and there the *Boswellia;* in places the curious white-barked *sterculia fœtida* spreads over the precipitous cliffs which form

> its outer face, and vast stretches of bamboo cover the debris at its base The forest consists for the most part of a mixed growth of stunted trees of no great height or girth, and though there are patches of *sal* (*shorea robusta*), the timber is poor and scarcely worth exporting. Among other important trees found in this area may be mentioned the *amaltas* (*cassia fistula*), the red cotton tree (*bombax malabaricum*), the *hara* (*terminalia chebula*), the astringent fruit of which forms the Indian or black myrobalan, and the *tend* (*diospyros melanoxylon*) yielding the abony of local commerce. The plateau is also rich in various jungle products from many of which the aboriginal inhabitants obtain a livelihood. from the *khair* (*acacia catechu*) cutch is prepared, lac is obtained from the *palas* (*butea frondosa*); *tasar* silkworms feed on the *asan* tree (*terminalia tomentosa*), the long coarse *sabai* grass is made into a strong twine, and the *kus* grass produces a fragrant oil Perhaps, however, the most useful of all the trees which clothe the hills and the undulating slopes at their base is the *mahua* (*bassia latifolia*), which yields food, wine, oil and timber, and affords the denizens of the jungle a ready means of subsistence in times of dearth. From the flowers the common country spirit is distilled, and whether fresh or dried they furnish the poorer classes with wholesome food, from the fruit is pressed an oil largely used for the adulteration of *ghi*, and the tough timber is used for the naves of cart wheels "*

This picture of botany of the district continues substantially to be the same The most noticeable change is in the decline of large number of mango orchards which have fallen to the axe Before the legislation of the abolition of Zamindari was passed many zamindars sold their mango groves and the groves were cut down There has also been a fairly large exploitation of the bamboos on the Kaimur hills There has, however, not been much exploitation of the grasses for the manufacture of paper With the provision of net-work of forest roads in the Kaimur plateau, it is likely that there will be more exploitation of the grasses for the manufacture of paper There has not yet been much economic use of *Khas* grass The Adhaura plateau offers excellent pasturage for the cattle for months at stretch The economic use of some of the trees has been mentioned in the section on 'Forests' Some of the main species which could be more utilised economically are—*Diospyros melanoxylon* (*kend*), *Boswellis serata* (*salai*), *Buchanania lonzon* (*Piyar*) *Anogeissm latifolia* (*dhau*), *Madhuka latifolia* (*mahua*), *Terminalia*

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* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) pages 14—16

tomentosa (*asan*), *Terminalia chebula* (*harra*), *Terminalia belerica* (*bahara*), *Acacia catechu* (*khair*), *Emblica officinale* (*aura*), *Lagerstoroemia parviflora* (*sidha*), *Halarrhena antidysenterica Koraiya*), etc *Diospyros melanoxylon* (*kend*) has already found good market and is being utilised economically In the year 1964-65 it has fetched a revenue of Rs. 2,11,600 00

It will be remembered that the Jagdishpur area right from Bihea was once a thick forest and this was cleared almost a century back. Now most of the forests are in the Kaimur Hill range Some patches of forest are found in Sasaram revenue thana in the south-eastern corner of the district between the river Sone and the eastern slope of the plateau. The separate section on 'Forests' may be seen for details Afforestation has been taken up to replenish the forest.

Forests

The first scientific examination of the forests was made in 1872 when an officer of the Forest Department visited the Rehal plateau He did not come across a tree which might yield a 20′ beam. He reported that there was an absence of large trees but young saplings were plentiful which if protected might yield the required timber. Indiscriminate felling continued right for nearly a century. His visit bore fruit in declaring about 20 square miles of forests, as protected forest in 1896. Another 145 square miles of forests were declared protected forests in 1909 These forests remained under the charge of a Deputy Collector till 1951 with the result that unsystematic felling could not be controlled owing to his being a non-technical man. These forests were entrusted to the charge of the Forest Department in 1952 and subsequently all the privately-owned forests were declared as protected forests A Forest Division was started in 1954 with headquarters at Sasaram The total area of the Division is 689 95 square miles The total area of the district comes to 4,892 square miles The forest, therefore, comprises nearly an area of 15.66 per cent of the district These are located in the two subdivisions of Bhabua and Sasaram

The Kaimur hills which have most of the forests form the eastern limit of the Vindhyan Range. The Vindhyan rocks, constituting the great sedimentary series, are even geologically speaking very old No definite fossils have been found in the district of Shahabad though coaly matter found in the carbonaceous shale, indicates existence of vegetative matter at the time during which the Vindhyas were laid down. The age of these rocks as told by the radio-active minerals in igneous rocks intruded into equivalent systems in other part of the world may be of the order of 600 million years.

Before the creation of this Forest Division unsystematic and indiscriminate fellings were the order of the day. The Forests are completely ruined and *sal* is now seen confined to Rehal plateau and in patches at other places. Inferior miscellaneous species like

salai, kend, sidha, etc., are seen scattered about. Bamboos are spread over an area of 57 square miles but the clumps are pitiably congested or over-exploited The damage had been done by the graziers who lop the tops of the clumps to feed their cattle. This system is still prevalent and Government is trying its best to put a stop to this ruinous habit of the grazier.

Afforestation over the blank area of the 689 95 square miles of the forest wealth of this district is the main problem, which the Forest Department is at present facing. In this direction, commendable progress has been achieved by afforesting 3,062 acres with plants of bamboo and *sisoo* species One Afforestation Range with an annual target of planting 600 acres is functioning under the charge of Shahabad Division. Scientific working of the forests has already been introduced with the introduction of the first working plan for Shahabad Division, from the year 1962-63 to 1971-72 The right-holders are now being given forest produce for their *bona fide* domestic requirements according to their rights recognised in *Farde rewaj* from annual right-holders' coupes

The bamboo-bearing forests have now begun to show much improvement due to introduction of their scientific exploitation since 1954 and in course of time, this is going to be a major source of forest revenue from this division.

There are four forest rest houses in this division, three are on Kaimur plateau and one on the plain at Chutia. One of the three rest houses, on the plateau, viz., at Karkatgarh is on the bank of the Karamnasa and commands a panoramic view of the river and the hill. There is a magnificent waterfall on Karamnasa river nearby and crocodiles are often seen in the river down below. It is a great place for the *shikaris* and tourists. The other rest house is at Rehal plateau. It will help tourists to reach Rohtas fort easily since one can drive down on a jeep up to Singh Gate easily and from there the fort is a four-mile walk of plain ground. Forest Department is contemplating to construct a forest road from this rest house to Rohtas fort.

The third rest house is at Dhobhar near "Dhuwan-Kund" and is hardly six miles from Tarachandi. From this rest house, tourists can enjoy a visit to "Dhuwan-Kund", an another waterfall on the plateau, which becomes a place of great attraction by the tourists and visitors during rains.

Since the creation of this division a number of forest roads have been constructed. The present length of forest-roads in this division is 412 kilometres.

The only forest in the district is on the Kaimur hills and on their slopes on either sides towards south. The conservation of the trees in these areas was not systematically undertaken for one reason or the other in the past though this aspect of the question was examined between 1872 to 1879. In 1876 a portion of Khasmahal

forest in Banskatti Mahal of Rohtas hill area was proclaimed to be protected forest. This area has been managed by one trained Forester and eight Forest Guards of the Khasmahal Department of Government. There has been no systematic plantation of timber in this area either so far.

Consequent upon the abolition of the *zamindaris* after the implementation of the Land Reforms Act, a big tract of 21 square miles of the forest area has vested in the State. This tract contains some good patches of *Sal* forest and several trees more than 50′ to 60′ high. *Sal* timber from the vested forest of Bhabua subdivision is mostly extracted for being used as beams for house building purposes in Bhabua subdivision. Such beams are also transported to Varanasi where they command a good market.

In Rohtas area bamboo shrubs are thick and after the opening of the Paper Mills at Dalmianagar extraction of these bamboos for making paper pulp is on an appreciable scale.

The plateau is predominantly inhabited by aboriginals, locally called *Dhangai* and *Bhuiyan*. The population in the foot hills and the adjoining area is heterogenous in character. But their requirements are generally identical. Agriculture and cattle-rearing are the two main occupations in the locality. A few heads of cattle and some sheep and goat are kept by all the well-to-do families on the plateau and below. Besides these there are a number of professional graziers who take herds of buffaloes as also sheep and goat on the plateau for grazing. The houses in the locality are generally constructed of mud and sundried bricks with thatched or tiled roofs. Apart from agriculture and animal husbandry stone-cutting for use as bricks, and making of tiles from shale are the other local industries.

On the whole, the wants of the population are few and simple. The main requirements are grasses and leaves for cattle fodder, fuel, poles, small timber, bamboo and thatch for house construction and some small timber for agricultural and domestic implements. There is a fairly keen demand for bamboos amongst basket-makers. The demand for big size timber on the plateau or in the vicinity is not very great as *pucca* buildings are rarely constructed in the locality.

In the north and the west of the tract, however, there are vast thickly populated areas, without any forests worth the name and there is keen demand for bamboo and timber in these areas. Apart from local market, almost everything is saleable at Varanasi.

A toll is realised for grazing cattle in the forest, cutting *sabai* grass, collecting *Kendu* leaves for preparing *biris*, besides extraction of timber. No toll is realised for the collection of honey, *mahua* flowers and *chiranji*. Some catechu is also prepared in this forest by boiling a portion of *Khair* plants.

The management of the vested forest has been handed over to the Forest Department only very recently. It is hoped that in the next 25 years the forests will be developed on scientific lines and this region will also compare favourably with dense forest of Palamau district on the other bank of the river Son. By and by it is hoped the entire forest region will come within the protected zone after examination of the possibility of its development by the Forest Department.

Kaimur hill forest is noted for Royal Bengal Tigers Jawar Khoh at a distance of 15 miles from Bhabua has been considered by the *shikaris* of Shahabad district and eastern districts of Uttar Pradesh to be sanctuary for big game shooting Royal Bengal Tigers are also found in Rohtas and Pipardih areas of this hill Leopards, hyena, wolf and bears are also found in a large number. Herds of deer, and *nilgai* (blue bulls) and *ghorpaias* move in the *Kash* zone area of the *diara* both on the banks of the rivers Ganga and Son. *Nilgais* cause considerable damage to the crop grown in the fields but due to the religious sentiment attached by the Hindus they do not kill these animals and the non-Hindus are doing the same

In the beds of the rivers, geese and other tame birds flock in abundance generally in paddy harvest season or in the winter and they provide good sports to the *shikaris* in the district

Importance of forestry in the economy of the district

The forests of this division have an important influence on the economy of the district, inasmuch as, they have been responsible for feeding various industries both large and small scales, besides meeting the requirements of the local people and providing for many of them their sources of livelihood

Bamboo is the most important produce At present about 2,169 tons of bamboos are supplied to M/s Rohtas Industries at Dehri-on-Sone for manufacture of paper pulp Besides 914 tons are being supplied to the local people for the house-building purposes A small-scale industry of manufacturing baskets is developing gradually in Sasaram subdivision The toy industry is fed with supply of toy-making wood such as that of Koryadanda (*Holorrhena antidysenterica*).

The requirement of timber (small poles), firewood and agricultural implements of the inhabitants of hundreds of right holding villages is met from these forests, free of cost, while the non-right-holders get the supply on reasonable cost, fixed by the Forest Department from time to time Poor people have the privileges of collecting and selling dry firewood free of cost Charcoal is manufactured in sufficiently large quantity, which enables to sell the same to U. P., after meeting local requirements.

A small-scale tanning industry is developing in the localities of Adhaura and Chanari. Fruits of *harra* and barks of *asan* and

panjan are being used in tanning. *Koraiya* (*Holorrhena antid senterica*) is found in large quantity and a few centres for toy-maki are developing in the forest areas. At present the bulk goes to tl Varanasi market as local consumption is still negligible. Unclaim hides and skins are annually settled with local Harijans eliminati competition from contractors which is considerably assisting develo ment of this community. *Sabai* grass is widely used for maki ropes and strings for local use Out of *salai* (*Boswellis serrata*) woo people manufacture wooden utensils for domestic use Fruits *mahua*, *kend* and *piar* constitute a considerable proportion of tl food of the local people, specially on the plateau Honey is allow to be collected free by the local people at present. The forest are of the plateau afford grazing to thousands of cattle of the plai below, in addition to the cattle belonging to the inhabitants of tl plateau. When all the fields have been cultivated in the plains ar there is no grazing ground left, herds of cattle go to the plate every year and are allowed grazing in the forest areas on nomin charge realise by the Forest Department

The production of these forests had been constantly increasi year after year since the creation of this division. In 1962-63 tl following quantity of timber, firewood and bamboos was extracte from these forests —

Agency of extraction	Timber in cft	Firewood in cft	Bamboos in nos
1 Purchasers	49,325	6,16,400	26,12,587
2 Right holders	7,785	34,800	2,92,596
3 Government Agency	1,222	900	4,744
TOTAL	58,332	6,52 100	29,09,927

Besides bamboos, *kendu* leaves are the most important amor the forest produce, which yielded a revenue of Rs 2 11,600(from auction during 1963-64 Other minor forest produce a fodder grass, *sabai* grass, *bharuhi* grass, hides and skins, myrobalan *Koryadanda* barks and leaves gum, thatch grass and palm an dates which collectively added Rs 12,126 00 only to the publ exchequer

Measures to secure scientific exploitation and development

The Shahabad Forest Division created in the year 1954 and no a first working plan for the whole of the division for the perio from 1962-63 to 1971–73 has already been prepared and has com under operation since 1963-64. The villagers are being persuade to take their *bona fide* domestic requirements in a systematic manne The bamboo clumps are also being attended to and in course (time this is going to be a major source of forest revenue from th division.

As regards development works, the most important and significant achievement is the construction of 412 kilometres of new forest roads during the last ten years. A good number of villages and a vast forest area on the plateau have become accessible through these roads. Prior to this, the plateau was practically inaccessible, the only means of approach was the foot-paths over precipitous slopes and escarpments

Forest Belts.

The forests of this district are located in the two Civil sub-divisions of Sasaram and Bhabua The bulk of the area is situated on the plateau which is a part of the Kaimur plateau of the Vindhyan Ranges.

Condition of the Forest.

The forest is thin and poor perhaps due to shifting cultivation resorted to by the Adibasis in the older days Miscellaneous species abound in these areas while *sal* is limited to small villages locally known as *khoh* and certain small patches on the plateau by the sides of perennial *nalas*.

Hardwickia binata used to grow on the southern slopes of the hills facing Son, but at present only a few are seen in about 3 to 4 square miles. These are all badly pollarded and useless

Bamboos (*Dendrocalamus strictus*) are found over an area of 57 square miles mostly in badly congested form due to unsystematic and indiscriminate exploitation in the past However, some of the bamboo bearing forests have responded very well to the scientific exploitation after 1954, and it can now be favourably compared with the good bamboo forests of Palamau district.

FAUNA

The *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) mentions —

"The district formerly abounded in wild animals and game-birds. but with the extension of irrigation caused by the introduction of canals they have had to give way before the advance of the cultivator, and are now only met with in the more remote parts and in diminishing numbers With the exception of *hyaenas*, black buck wild pig and *nilgai* (*boselaphus tragocamelus*), large game is practically confined to the Kaimur hills and the gorges which pierce the plateau in all directions. In this area tigers, though not common, are occasionally met with, bears, leopards and riverine cats are numerous, while the *koa* or wild dog, though comparatively rare, is still sometimes seen in the wilder recesses of the plateau. There are several varieties of deer; the *sambar* (*cervus unicolor*) chiefly frequents the gorges of the table-land, spotted deer and black buck are met with in the plains, the former principally

in the plains adjacent to the hills and the latter in large herds on the open country in the central zone of the district, and the hog deer (*cervus axis*) is found in the jungle growth on the hills and in the glens which fringe the plateau The habitat of the *nilgai* is the table-land and the alluvial tract bordering on the Ganges * Wild pigs abound on the table-land, in the *diaras* of the Ganges and the Son, and generally throughout the district They are particularly common in the central plain, and of late years they have been hunted with considerable success in the country between Bikramganj and Dinara Other animals include the *hyena,* found principally on the plateau and its slopes, and the jackal, fox and hare, which are common throughout the district."†

It may be mentioned that the population of wild life had considerably declined owing to large scale shooting But since the last few years owing to the high prices of lethal weapons and bullets there is very little of organised shikar and wild life is again prospering There are now quite a good number of Royal Bengal tigers and panthers among the Carnivora The number of black bear, boar sambar and blue bull also appears to have gone up It is rather unfortunate that there has been a great decline in the number of spotted deer and *Chinkara* (Indian Gazell), and wild dogs and riverine cats owing to a rather indiscriminate shooting in the past. Recently game laws have been tightened up and the following acts are prohibited —

(*a*) Poisoning of carcasses of animals

(*b*) Spearing and running deer with dogs.

(*c*) Watching in the neighbourhood of water or salt lakes between sunset and sunrise to shoot animals other than Carnivora resorting to such places

(*d*) The setting of traps except with the written permission of the Divisional Forest Officer

(*e*) Hunting, chasing and shooting and fishing except by authorised persons or permit holders

Indiscriminate shooting has been stopped The entire plateau has been notified as a game sanctuary in 1960 where all shootings are strictly prohibited for preservation of wild life.

The fish-eating crocodile is found in the larger rivers, and the common crocodile is frequently seen A peculiar kind of crocodile shooting which is quite uncommon in other areas has been in vogue at the anicut area of Dehri. Fish-eating crocodiles usually come in

* Now called Ganga.

† *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* by J. F. W. James, 1924, page 16.

the night on the other side of the anicut with the hope that some fish will escape although the anicut gates are shut. *Shikaries* on boat go over the water by the side of the anicut and with the help of strong petromax lights dazzle the crocodiles and shoot them. This type of bagging crocodiles which has little sport in it has also led to a decline in the number of crocodiles in that area.

REPTILES

Squirrels (*Ratufa, Funambulus*) are pleasant animals. The fish-eating crocodile is in large river (Son) Crocodiles frequently attack human beings. During heavy rains common mud tortoises are to be seen in marshes In muddy rice or wheat field another type Testudo elegans burrow and children usually prey upon them. Gavialis and Crocodilus palustris live in rivers Calotus Versicolor Varanus spp are common lizards Inguana has almost disappeared Snakes are also frequent Non-poisonous colobrids can be seen along with occasional Naja Tripudians Most common amphibian is Rana tigrina along with toads which produce a melodious music during rainy season

Mortality

Human kills by wild animals is almost nil Some rare cases occur in the hills There are a few deaths by snake biting, where they are locally attended by village Ojhas and charmers It is just the other way that the mortality rate of wild animals should be checked by taking efficient steps.

AVI-FAUNA

This district is rich in the variety of its bird-population on account of its geo-physical character, the northern half is alluvium and riparian and about eight hundred square miles of rock and jungles in the south This area is the north eastern extremity of the Kaimur plateau It becomes the meeting ground of the birds of the hills and of the plains. It also becomes the eastern frontier line of birds which come to India from beyond the Hindukush and the Karakorams in winter and spread out over the plains of Northern India Very few of these pass beyond the district further east For birds of the *anseridae* family that enter India through the Nepal passes of the Himalayan range*, the Ganga, the Son, the Koel, the Karamnasa and the Durgauti rivers offer welcome halting places in their passage south and west while many choose to remain and pass their winter here The migration routes of many important birds have not been studied in India The Flamingoes, for example, with which have been identified with the '*Rajhans*" of Kalidasa (by Dr S. C Law as well as Jerdon) which pass over India for their winter resorts undoubtedly pass over the plains of India. Those that enter India through the eastern gaps of the Himalayas across Bhutan and extreme north-east fly over the Bay of Bengal to

* An account of the *District of Shahabad by Francis Buchanan*, 1812-13.

Rameshwaram and South Africa. But those come through the Nepal passes are expected to hop over the western borders of Bihar, specially those whose destination is Madras and the Runn of Cutch. Shahabad is also the northern limit of local migrants from the Deccan that move north in their seasonal shiftings

Post-independence Planning and Development schemes involving deforestation and damming of rivers have had marked effect on the habitat of birds. The Rihand Dam to the south-west of Shahabad has regulated the flow of water into the Son with the result that many species of aquatic game birds do not find it as inviting as before The new Sone Barrage at Indrapuri near Dehri will have the same effect. Unless a detailed bird-survey is carried out, it is difficult to estimate on individual observation, the extent of displacement in bird-population The common storks (*Janghill*) which used to set up their nest-colonies in Arrah and around, (and also Patna and Gaya) have been driven out of their favourite breed ing places, a definite loss to agricultural economy The storks devour locusts and other insects in large numbers when these pests invade any locality and the thinning away of their number would largely frustrate agricultural planning

The resident and migrant birds of the district are listed below —

The Jungle and the House Crow (*Corvus macrorphyncus* and *C. splendens*), the Tree-Pie (*Dendrocitta rufa*), the Grey Tit (*Parus major*), the Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch (*Sitta castanea*), the Jungle Babbler (*Crateropus canorus*), the Common Babbler (both *Argya candata* and *A Malcolmi*), the Rufous-bellied Babbler (*Dumatia hyperethria*), the Common Iora (*Aegithina tiphia*) (also *Aegithina humei*), the Harewa or the Gold-fronted Green *Bulbul* (*Chloropsis aurifrons*) and Jerdon's Chloropsis (*Chloropsis jerdoni*)· the Red-vented *Bulbul* (*Molpastes bengalensis*), the *Sipahi Bulbul* or the Red-whiskered *Bulbul* (*Otocompsa emeria*); the Kata Piddah or the Pied Bushchat (*Saxicola capiata*), the Kali Shama or the Indian Robin (*Thamnobia cambaiensis*), the Dhayal or Magpie-Robin (*Copsychus saularis*), the Shama (*Cittocincla macrura*), the Paradise Flycatcher or Dudhraj (*Tchitrea paradisi*), the Fantail Flycatcher (*Leucocirca pectoralis*), Tickell's Blue Flycatcher (*Muscicapula tickellae*), the Lahtora or the Grey Shrike (*Lanins Excubitor*), the Wood Shrike (*Tephrodornis pondicerianus*); the Rufons-backed Shrike (*Lanius Schach*), the Bay-headed Shrike (*Lanius Vittatus*); the Small minivet (*Pericrocotus peregrinus*), the Black-headed Cuckoo-Shrike (*Lalage Sykesii*); the Large Cuckoo Shrike (*Graucalus javensis*);

the Ashy Swallow Shrike (*Artamus fuscus*); the Black Drongo or King Crow (*Dicrurus ater*); the white-bellied Drongo (*Dicrurus Coerulescens*); the Bhimraj or the Racket-tailed Drongo (*Dissemurus paradiseus*); the Tailor Bird (*Orthotomus sutorins*), the Streaked Fantail Warbler (*Cisticola jeincidis*), the Ashy Wren Warbler (*Prinia Socialis*), the Indian Wren Warbler (*Prinia inornata*); the Pilak or the Indian Oriole (*Oriolus Kuncloo*), the Black-headed Oriole (*Lriolus melanocephalus*), the Pawi or the Grey-headed *Myna* (*Saurnia malabarica*), the Brahminy or Black-headed *Myna* (*Temenuchus pagodarum*); the Common *Myna* (*Acridotheres tristis*), the Bank *Myna* (*Acridotheras gingianus*); the Ablak or Pied *Myna* (*Sturnopaster Contra*); the *Pahari Myna* or the Indian Jungle *Myna* (*Aethiopsar fuscus*); the *Baya* or the Common Weaver Bird (*Ploceus Phillippinus*); the Striated Weaver Bird (*Ploceus manya*), the Sarbo *Baya* or the Black-throated Weaver bird (*Ploceus bengalensis*); the Northern Chestnut-Bellied Munia (*Munia articapilla*), the White-throated Munia (*Uroloncha malabarica*), the Spotted Munia (*Uroloncha punctulata*), the *Lal* or Red Munia (*Amandava amandava*); the Gauriya or the House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*), *Rajt or Jungli Churi*; the fellow-throated Sparrow (*Gymnoris Xanthocollis*) the Crested Bunting (*Melophus melanicterus*), the small Sand-Martin (*Riparia riparia*), the Dusky Crag Martin (*Riparia concolor*); the Indian Wire-tailed Swallow (*Hirundo Smithu*), *Dhobin* is the generic name for all Wagtails among which the only resident one is the *Motacilla maderaspatensis*, the large Pied Wagtail. Similarly the only resident Pipit is the Indian pipit (*Anthus rufulus*); the Bharat or the Small Sky-lark (*Alanda Gulgula*); the Aggia or the Bengal Bush Lark (*Mirafra assamica*), the Chendool or the Crested Lark (*Galerida cristata*); the Aggin or the Singing Bush-lark (*M. Cantillans*), the Ashy-Crowned Finch-Lark (*Eremopterix grisea*), the retail or the Indian Rufous-tailed Finch Lark (*Ammomaner phoenicura*); the white-eye (*Zosterops palpebrosa*); the Shakarkhora or the Purple Sunbird (both *Aracnechthra asiatica* and *A. Zeylonica*), Jickell's Flowerpecker (*Dicaeum erythrorhyncos*), the *Naurangi* or the Indian *Pitta* (*Pitta brachyura*); the Golden backed Woodpecker (*Brachypterus benghalensis*); the Coppersmith or the Crimson-breasted Barbet (*Xantholema haemacephala*); the Green Barbet (*Cyanopo asiatica*), the Koel (*Endynamis honorata*); the *Papeeha* or the Hawk-cuckoo

(*Hierococcyx varius*); the Indian Cuckoo (*Cuculus micropterus*); the *Shah Bulbul* or the Pied Crested Cuckoo (*Clamator Jacobinus*) is a rainy season visitor; the *Mahukal* or the Crow-Pheasant (*Centropus sinensis*), the Large Indian Parrot (*Psittacula eupatria*); the rose-ringed Parakeet (*P. Krameri*); the Blossom-headed Parakeet in the wooded areas (*P. cyanocephala*); the *Nilkanth* or the Blue Jay (*Coracias indica*), the Banspatti or the Common Bee-eater (*Meropo viridis*), the Blue-tailed Bee-eater (*M. superciliosus*), the Pied Kingfisher (*Ceryle varia*), the White-breasted Kingfisher (*Halcyon smyrnensis*), the Common Kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis*), the Brown headed Stork-billed Kingfisher (*Ramphalcyon capensis*); the Common Grey Hornbill or Dhanesh (*Tockus birostris*), the Hud-hud or the Hoopoe (*Upupa epops*), both the houseswift and the Palmswift (*Micropus offinis* and *Cypsiurus parvus*), the Common Indian Nightjar (*Caprimulgus asiaticus*), Franklins Nightjar (*C monticolous*) in the southern parts, among owls the Spotted (*Athene brama*), *the Barn* (*Tytoalfa*), the Brown Fish owl (*Ketupa ceylonensis*) and the Great Horned owl (*Bubo bubo*), the Commonest Vulture is the White backed (*Pseudogyps benghalensis*), the King Vulture (*Sarcosgyps calvus*) and the White Scavenger Vulture (*Neophron Percnopterus*), among birds of prey can be listed the Common Kite (*Milvus migrans*), the Brahminy Kite (*Haliastur indus*), Pallas's Fishing Eagle (*Haliaetus leucoryphus*), the Laggar Falcon (*Falco jaggar*), the Red-headed Merlin (*Falco chiquera*) the Short toed Eagle (*Circaetus feron*); the Buzzard Eagle (*Butastor teesa*), the Crested Serpent Eagle (in the hilly area) (*Haematornis cheela*), the Crested Honey Buzzard (*Pernisptilorhyncus* The Shikra (*Astur badius*), the Green Pigeon (*Croeopus phoenicopterus*) is very plentiful in the South, the Blue Rock pigeon (*Columba livia*) everywhere, among doves only the Red Turtle dove (*Oenopopelia tranquebarica*), the Spotted Dove (*Streptopelia Chinensis*) and the Ring Dove (*S decaocto*) are common The common Sandgrous (*Pterocles exustus*) is the only grous found along the rivers of the district. The Pea-fowl (*Pavo cristatus*) is plentiful in the southern parts; the Red Jungle Fowl (*Gallus gallus*) is abundant in the woodlands; the Jungle Bush Quail (*Perdicula asiatica*); the Black-breasted Quail (*Coturnis Coromandelicus*); the Bustard Quail (*Turnix suocitator*) are the three resident quails, the Grey Partridge (*Francolinus*

pondicerianus) and the Black (*F. francolinus*) are plentiful; the White-breasted Waterhen (*Amaarornis phoenicurus*); the Indian Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*); the Purple Moorhen (*Porphyrio poliocephalus*, the Coot (*Fulica atra*) the Jacana is a rare bird in this district, the Painted Snipe (*Rostratula benghalensis*) occurs along the lower reaches of the rivers; the Stone-Curlew (*Burhinus Oedinemus*), the Indian Courser (*Cursorius Coromandelicus*), the River Tern (*Sterna aurantia*) the Red-wattled Lapwing (*Lobivanellus indicus*) is more common than the Little Ring Plover (*Charadrius dubius*), the Yellow-wattled Lapwing (*Lobipluvia malabarica*) does occur but is rare, the Avocet (*Recurvirostra avosetta*) has been recorded but has been absent for years the Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax niger*) and the Snake-Bird (*Anhinga melanogaster*) are very common The Ibis, both black and white, is rare in this district, the Stork, both the white and the white necked (*Ciconia ciconia* and *Dissoura episcopus*), are numerous, the Grey Heron (*Ardea cinerea*) is a rarity; the Little Egret (*Egretta garzetta*), the Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus-i-bis*), the Pond Heron (*Ardeola grayii*) and the Night Heron or the Andhe ua (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) in large numbers are a pleasing feature of the countryside the Panduhbi or the Little Grebe (*Podiceps ruficollis*) is ever present in all *jheels*, ponds and lakes the resident ducks are represented by the *Nukta* or the Comb Duck (*Sarkidiornis melanotos*) the Cotton Teal (*Nettapus coromandelianus*) and the Lesser Whistling Teal (*Dendrocygna javanica*)

Winter considerably adds to the bird-population when visiting birds arrive The most conspicuous among the smaller in the Red-Start or Furcera (*Phoenicurus Ocrurus*), the Bush Chat (*Saxicola torquata*) the Hussaini Piddah or the Indian Blue Throat (Cyanosilva Suecica), the Common Ruby Throat (*Calliope camatschatkensis*); the Kher-Piddah or the Indian Bush Chat (*Pratincola maura*); the Brown Rock-Chat (*Cercomela fusca*), the Dama or the Orange-headed Ground Thrush (*Geocichla Citrina*) also the Blue Rock-Thrush (*Monticola solitaria*); the **Muscicapidae are** well represented by several species, the *Ghulabi Myna* or the Rosy Pastor (*Pastor Roseus*) stray into this district from Uttar Pradesh, several Warblers spread out in the district, the *Tuti* or Hodgson's Rose Finch (*Carpodacus erythrinus*); the Red-Headed Bunting (*Emberiza brunniceps*), the Common Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*);

the Grey and the White-Wagtails (*Motacilla cineria* and *M Alba*) are most numerous; several Pipits (*genus Anthus*) are evident; among the Raptorial winter visitors the Kestrel (*Falco tinnuncutus*) is rare, the Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) is the commonest, the Pale Harrier (*Circus macrourus*) occurs Among game birds the Auserinae are represented by the Grey Lag and Barheaded Geese, the Chakwa or the Brahminy Duck, mallard, teal, gadwall, pigeon, pintails, pochwads and shovellers The Common Snipe (*Capella gallinago*) is abundant along with the little Stint (*Calidris minuta*) and the Spotted Sand-piper (*Tringa galterola*)

It may be mentioned that Francis Buchanan who had visited the district in 1812-13 had also mentioned the species of some birds. Sparrow hawks were nursed by the Raja of Bhojpur and his kinsmen at Jagdishpur Partridges, quails, *Saika* (*Gracula tristis*) were pursued *Jimach* was a large bird of prey and there used to be fights between a *Jimach* and a falcon Peacocks, parakeets, various kinds of crane were numerous It has to be mentioned here that partridges, quails and peacocks have become very rare now

THE CLIMATE OF SHAHABAD DISTRICT

The climate of this district is generally dry and bracing for the greater part of the year The cold season starts early in November and extends to late March The hot season is from April to about the middle of June when the monsoon season commences The monsoon continues till the end of September October is a transition month

RAINFALL

The district has a network of 20 rain-gauge stations with records extending in most cases to 70 or 80 years Tables 1 and 2 give the details of the rainfall at the 20 stations and for the district as a whole The average annual rainfall in the district is 1,131 mm. (44 5″) The central part of the district around Chenari, Sasaram and Kargahar receives a little more rainfall than the rest of the district. The district gets 88 per cent of the annual rainfall during the monsoon months June to September The maximum rainfall occurs in August The variation in the annual rainfall from year to year is not large In the fifty years, i e, 1901 to 1950, the highest rainfall amounting to 143 per cent of the normal fell in 1936, the year 1908 had the lowest annual rainfall amounting to 61 per cent of the normal During these fifty years there were only 6 years when the district rainfall was less than 80 per cent of the normal. None of these were consecutive years At individual stations two or three consecutive years of low rainfall have occurred once or twice. From Table 2 it will be seen that in 40 years out of fifty the district rainfall was between 900 and 1400 mm. The average number of rainy days (days with rainfall of 2.5 mm.—10 cents—or more) per year for the district is 52

The highest rainfall in 24 hours recorded at any station in the district was 389.4 mm (15.33″) at Chenari on 11th September, 1936.

Temperature

Meteorological data are available for Dehri, Arrah and Buxar. Dehri is the only observatory now existing in the district as the other two were closed down long ago. As the data of all the three stations show similar features the data for Dehri only are included in this summary. From the middle of March temperatures begin to rise and hot dry westerly winds blow. May is the hottest month. Towards the peak of summer preceding the onset of the monsoon maximum temperatures can reach values as high as 47°C (117°F) on individual days. With the setting in of the monsoon day temperatures drop by about 8 to 9°C without appreciable drop in night temperatures. After the withdrawal of the monsoon by the beginning of October temperatures begin to decrease reaching the lowest value in January which is the coldest month with minimum temperature sometimes going down to 4 or 5°C.

Humidity

The summer months are very dry and relative humidities can be as low as 20 per cent to 25 per cent in the afternoon. In the monsoon season air is very humid, during the rest of the year humidity averages about 50 per cent in the afternoon.

Cloudiness

During the winter and summer months skies are generally clear or lightly clouded but towards late summer cloudiness is more in the afternoon. In the monsoon months skies are heavily clouded or overcast.

Winds

Light south-westerly or westerly winds prevail in the winter and early summer months. Towards the end of summer easterlies set in and continue throughout the monsoon season.

Special weather phenomena

Locally heavy rain and strong winds are experienced in the district in association with some of the storms or depressions which move inland from the Bay of Bengal during the monsoon and post-monsoon months. Thunderstorms and occasional duststorms accompanied with squalls occur in the summer months. Even during the monsoon months rain is sometimes associated with thunder. Morning fogs are possible during the winter months.

Tables 3, 4 and 5 give the temperature and humidity, mean wind speed and frequency of special weather phenomena respectively for Dehri.

TABLE

Normals and extremes

Station.	No of years of data		January.	February.	March	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.
1	2		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Buxar ..	49	a	19 3	22 1	8 6	5 6	16 5	125 0	286 8	308.6
		b	1 5	2 0	0 9	0 5	1 4	5 8	13 1	14 1
Dehri ..	50	a	19 6	24 6	11 7	7 1	12 7	128 5	282 2	360 9
		b	1 7	2 0	1 2	0 8	1 2	6 4	14 3	14 8
Bhabua .	50	a	20 3	23 9	11 4	7 9	13 2	128 0	311 1	350 0
		b	1 8	2 1	1 2	0 8	1 2	6 0	15.2	15 2
Sasaram	50	a	21 3	25 4	12 2	6 6	14 7	133 9	317 0	387 1
		b	1 7	2 1	1 2	0 9	1 2	6 6	14 8	15.5
Arrah	50	a	17 8	24 6	9 1	7 4	23 1	143 0	315 5	331 0
		b	1 4	1 8	1 0	0 7	1 7	7 3	14 4	15 1
Mohania	50	a	15 5	20 8	7 4	5 1	7 9	103 5	309 6	343 1
		b	1 1	1 8	0 8	0 5	0 6	5 2	12 8	13 6
Ageaon ..	50	a	19 1	23 4	7 6	6 3	23 4	141 2	314 5	346 5
		b	1 1	1 8	0 8	0 7	1 4	6 4	13 0	14 1
Ramnagar	50	a	15 5	22 1	9 7	6 3	20 6	117 6	277 6	287 3
		b	1 5	1 7	0 9	0 7	1 3	6 5	12 9	13 6
Koath	50	a	17 3	23 6	8 6	7 1	18 3	123 2	280 9	337.1
		b	1 4	1 8	0 9	0 6	1 2	6 1	13 6	13.7
Sikraul	50	a	17 8	21 1	8 6	5 6	11 2	129 8	283.2	321 3
		b	1 6	1 8	0 9	0 5	0 9	5 8	12 8	13.9
Bassawan	50	a	16 5	23 9	9 1	5 8	12 2	125 2	304 5	351.5
		b	1 5	1 9	0 9	0 6	1 0	6 3	14 4	14.2
Manoharpur	50	a	18 3	20 8	8 4	6 3	16 3	116 1	206 9	323 1
		b	1 5	1 7	0 9	0 6	1 1	5 7	13 0	13 8
Akbarpur .	46	a	21 3	29 0	11 2	9 9	14 5	150.4	322 1	351.3
		b	1 6	2 0	1 0	0 9	1 2	7 3	14 3	14 9
Chand	39	a	16 5	16 0	11 4	4 3	10 9	102 9	282 2	358 1
		b	1 3	1 4	0 8	0 6	0 8	5 3	12.3	11 4
Chenari	41	a	24 4	28 5	11 9	6 3	15 2	141 0	399 8	395 8
		b	1 9	1 8	0 9	0 5	0 8	5 4	14.1	14 2
Kochas .	27	a	21 3	20 1	7 6	7 9	9 1	131 1	296 2	390.5
		b	1 8	1 7	0 7	0 7	0 8	5 8	14 5	14.9
Adhaura .	41	a	22 9	23 9	10 9	5 8	15 5	101 1	326 9	399 3
		b	1 8	1 6	0 9	0 6	0 9	5 7	14.4	17.0
Baruhi ..	13	a	22 9	29 5	7 1	7 6	14 7	126 2	224.0	282.7
		b	1 8	2 0	0 8	0 5	1 1	6 1	11.0	12.7
Chouri	15	a	20 3	38 9	8 4	6 1	8.4	110.5	294 4	391.7
		b	1 7	2 3	1 4	0 6	0 7	5.8	13 7	14.2
Kargahar	11	a	13 7	16 3	3 3	1 8	40 1	166 6	379.2	352.3
		b	0 7	1 4	0 5	0 2	2 0	6 2	12 4	11.1
Shahabad (district)		a	19 1	24 0	9 2	6 3	15 9	127 5	305.2	342.0
		b	1 5	1 8	0 9	0 6	1 1	6 1	13.5	14.1

(a) Normal rainfall in mm

(b) Average number of rainy days (days with rain of 2.5 mm or more).

1.

of Rainfall.

September.	October	November.	December.	Annual	Highest annual rainfall as per cent of normal and year†	Lowest annual rainfall as per cent of normal and year†	Heaviest rainfall in 24 hours * Amount (mm.)	Heaviest rainfall in 24 hours * Date
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
194.8	51.3	6.9	5.3	1,050.8	148	67	231.4	23rd July 1895
					(1936)	(1918)		
8.6	2.4	0.5	0.6	51.4	153	51	254.5	13th August 1910
214.9	44.2	11.9	4.3	1,122.6	(1936)	(1908)		
9.1	2.5	0.7	0.4	55.1	162	61	274.8	21st August 1933
225.5	51.3	8.6	5.1	1,156.3	(1946)	(1908)		
9.2	2.5	0.5	0.5	56.1	151	55	278.9	14th August 1910
236.5	55.9	11.4	4.6	1,226.6	(1946)	(1908)		
9.5	2.6	0.6	0.4	57.0	184	57	260.9	24th June 1897
223.0	58.2	9.7	4.3	1,167.4	(1949)	(1935)		
10.0	3.1	0.6	0.4	57.5	148	41	[illegible]	28th August 1940
206.8	45.5	6.6	5.8	1,082.6	(1936)	(1903)		
7.6	2.0	0.5	0.4	47.2	179	43	255.6	25th June 1897
225.8	65.3	10.7	5.8	1,189.6	(1946)	(1908)		
8.5	2.4	0.6	0.4	51.5	184	60	216.4	13th July 1926
170.2	45.7	9.7	6.1	988.4	(1914)	(1902)		
8.4	2.5	0.5	0.3	50.8	160	59	190.0	15th July 1897
193.3	54.1	11.7	4.6	1,079.8	(1929)	(1912)		
8.6	2.3	0.6	0.3	51.1	147	67	260.1	15th July 1897
197.4	41.9	8.1	5.1	1,063.1	(1922)	(1908)		
8.8	2.2	0.5	0.3	50.0	142	61	251.5	5th September 1942
213.1	64.4	6.3	5.3	1,127.8	(1942)	(1914)		
8.4	2.2	0.5	0.5	52.4	16[illegible]	43	295.1	7th August 1948
213.9	46.5	11.4	7.1	1,086.1	(1948)	(1943)		
8.3	2.3	0.6	0.4	50.[illegible]	141	56	[illegible]17.2	14th August 1935
198.6	46.2	9.9	4.6	1,169.0	(1948)	(1947)		
8.5	2.5	0.5	0.3	55.0	237	44	381.0	29th August 1910
220.5	43.7	10.9	4.8	1,082.2	(1936)	(1932)		
7.4	1.9	0.4	0.3	43.9	171	48	389.1	11th September 1936
252.5	55.9	11.7	5.8	1,337.8	(1919)	(1912)		
7.9	2.1	0.7	0.5	50.8	151	70	233.7	26th June 1950
214.4	51.1	12.9	8.1	1,110.3	(1948)	(1941)		
9.4	2.1	0.8	0.5	53.7	187	42	228.6	14th August 1933
217.7	55.1	11.2	7.9	1,198.2	(1936)	(1916)		
9.0	3.6	0.6	0.4	56.5	129	64	226.1	12th September 1936
238.3	24.6	3.6	3.3	984.5	(1938)	(195[illegible])		
7.9	1.7	0.4	0.3	46.3	127	41	196.1	12th September 1936
242.3	52.8	2.0	7.1	1,122.9	(1942)	(1950)		
9.8	2.5	0.3	0.5	53.5	148	62	317.5	17th September 1913
260.7	41.4	12.7	1.3	1,280.4	(1913)	(1915)		
6.8	2.1	0.4	0.1	43.9	143	61		..
217.5	49.3	9.4	5.3	1,130.7	(1936)	(1908)		
8.6	2.4	0.5	0.4	51.5				

* Based on all available data up to 1958,

† Years given in brackets.

TABLE 2

Frequency of Annual Rainfall in the district.
(Data 1901—1950.)

Range in mm	Number of years	Range in mm	Number of years
601—700	1	1,201—1,300	4
701—800	0	1,301—1,400	6
801—900	5	1,401—1,500	1
901—1,000	7	1,501—1,600	2
1,001—1,100	11	1,601—1,700	1
1,101—1,200	12	1,701—1,800	0

TABLE 3

Normals of Temperature and relative humidity
Dehri

Month	Mean daily maximum temperature	Mean daily minimum temperature	Highest maximum ever recorded		Lowest minimum ever recorded		Relative* humidity	
	°C	°C	°C	Date	°C	Date	0830 Percentage	1730 Percentage
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
January	23.9	11.4	30.6	28-1-1958	4.4	6-1-1950	74	50
February	27.6	14.2	34.4	19-2-1952	6.7	12-2-1950	63	39
March	33.7	19.1	41.1	27-3-1953	11.7	8-3-1945	45	26
April	38.9	23.9	44.4	22-4-1956	17.2	6-4-1955	38	23
May	41.6	27.7	43.2	21-5-1948	20.6	3-5-1955	47	26
June	38.6	28.2	46.1	9-6-1953	20.8	11-6-1957	64	50
July	32.[illegible]	26.1	41.4	7-7-1958	22.2	7-7-1951	84	77
August	32.1	26.2	36.1	11-8-1945	23.3	25-8-1953	85	80
September	32.0	25.5	35.6	29-9-1951	20.6	19-9-1946	84	80
October	31.5	21.9	35.6	21-10-1951	14.7	31-10-1957	74	66
November	28.3	15.4	33.9	2-11-1951	9.4	30-11-1952	68	52
December	25.1	11.6	30.0	23-12-1953	7.6	24-12-1957	72	49
Annual ..	32.2	21.2	..	..	..	..	67	61

*Hours I. S. T.

TABLE 4

Mean wind Speed in Km/hr.

Delhi

January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Annual
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
4.2	5.6	6.1	7.4	7.4	7.0	6.4	5.5	5.0	3.[illegible]	3.2	3.4	5.5

TABLE 5

Special Weather Phenomena

Delhi

Mean no. of days with—	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Annual.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Thunder	0.4	0.3	0.8	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0	0.3	0	0	0	3.5
Dust-storm	0	0	0	0.3	0.3	1.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.9
Squall	0	0	0	0	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.1
Fog	1.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.5	2.1

CHAPTER II.

HISTORY

INTRODUCTION

Shahabad is a colourful district of Bihar and its history from the remote ancient days has been colourful. The history of Shahabad district, the land of the *Karushas* is very much affected by the geography of the area. Here geography and history are so intimately related that a complete picture of the historical phenomena and all that goes to make up life through the ages cannot be appreciated, unless and until, the vertical and horizontal sections of the area have been thoroughly analysed and appreciated. It may be repeated that the present district of Shahabad has three natural divisions and the divisions with the specific features have had their impact on the role that the district was destined to play in the past and the present and shall play in future. It has been unfortunate that Shahabad district has had a very summary treatment so far as its history and the men of Shahabad are concerned. Foreign historians have naturally seen more of red when they come to Shahabad district which had always been the playground of big rulers and a stiff resistance of the local barons and particularly because Kuar Singh and a few other men chose to raise the standard of revolt against the British Raj in the fateful days of 1857. It is the geography of the area that has made a Shahabadi what he is, a tough specimen of the human-kind brave, liberal and chivalrous but rather impetuous and often rash in character.

The first natural division consists of the alluvial plains near the Ganga with its rich riparian area providing a rich rice bowl and a granary, not merely to the Shahabadis, but the neighbouring areas as well. But this very fertility spread leisure and comfort with certain inherent disadvantages, encouragement of a leisure and comfort loving class and the history of the district fully bears the disadvantages out. The fertility of the area is also liable to lapse into jungles if the habitations shrink or the population declines and there are no people to cultivate. The second natural division is also a flat country consisting more of tertiary rocks and alluvium, while the third or the last, is the Kaimur plateau. In reality, it is the extension of the Vindhya range in the lower Gangetic valley which continues up to Manbhum and Singhbhum and over which the alluvium deposits created the present Gangetic delta or West Bengal.* A major portion of this area was first covered with jungle when living

* D. N. Wadia—*Geology of India* (Section Plan)

was more precarious here than in the fertile plains The physical features of this area were utilised in a series of small *garhs* or forts and there were a series of powerful but small village monarchs or feudal barons who used to fall back into the forests if any more powerful enemy invaded These feudal barons would throw off their overlords whenever they got an opportunity The physical barriers for a long time helped them to grow in some isolation and independence The boundaries of the hills are well defined They, however, rise abruptly, with numerous escarpments and saucer-shaped valleys, containing rich deposits of decomposed vegetal growths There are deep gorges and ravines, made by rushing mountain torrents, through the millenniums The Kaimur hills are still comparatively unexplored to the archaeologists and the historians It is here that a number of tribals and semi-tribals have lived for centuries and some of them are now claiming to be Rajputs Normally they are still born in poverty and remain poor It is only very recently that attempts have been made to give some roadways to open up this area One who has seen Adhaura thirty years before or one who has trekked or ponied from Bhabua to Adhaura and from Adhaura to Rohtas knows what this area was before the blocks were opened just a few years back The few passes only gave access in those days to the fringe of the tangled mass of rocks, gorges plateaus and valleys somehow historically very well known since time immemorial. Rohtasgarh has been a landmark for centuries and it was Rohtasgarh that was the target of many ambitious rulers It is this area that had given shelter to the peoples, races, tribes and dynasties when they had their political battles in the plains

It is these fundamental characteristics of Shahabad district that had given a lasting impact on her people Since time immemorial the Shahabadis have loved freedom in spite of the fact that they have often lost it The jungles and the rockgirt valleys of Shahabad have encouraged through the ages the resistance leaders of the conquered people and also have given them a spirit which often defied their victors The annals of the victors have often been smudged, the Shahabadis described as robbers, bandits and wild The jungle tribes have been taken to be primitive and savage The guerrilla tactics of the Shahabadis whether in the plains or in the country consisting of tertiary rock and alluvium or in the Kaimur plateau have seldom been appreciated Shahabad has been one of the most strategic areas in the Eastern India from the olden days up to the battle of Chausa when the British became the masters of the greater portion of the Eastern India This district has received waves of invasion as we shall presently see and the lords of Delhi have always had a lustful eye on Shahabad The mighty river of Sone along with a few other rivers have also had their impact on the district. Civilisation has often travelled through the waterways

when other means of communications were meagre and Shahabad is no exception to the play of this historic truth Shahabad has enriched her culture through the rivers and has also given much in return to other areas

Antiquity has given Shahabad a tradition To the Jains Shahabad is an area for pilgrimage The inscriptions found in the district, many of which are still unedited suggest the past To the political historians Shahabad has been a chess board for measuring the fortunes of kings and generals Shahabad in spite of the hilly terrains and jungles has not been a *cul de-sac* but a round about—a region on which routes converge and from where routes radiate * The long procession of rulers and generals that made Shahabad district their playground has left their impact in various ways both in concrete objects and on the people Peculiarly enough while some other districts had a square deal from the historians, archaeologists and archivists, this district has remained neglected If only the Rohtas Fort could speak, we would have been enthralled The history of the small barons and feudal lords that this area had nursed, the story of the Cheros and *Bhuiyas*, Oraons and Kharias the great master minds that built the Mundeshwari temple and kept up a tradition has yet to be written.

To the socio economists Shahabad has a particular appeal being one of the most advanced districts in Bihar In recent decades also Shahabad has been very prominent in the struggle for freedom There are more schools in this district than elsewhere This district has a very large number of villages with a population of more than two thousand persons The fact that this district is politically and culturally much ahead of many other districts of Bihar should not surprise any one

This is the district which took up the process of rejuvenation from the seventies of the last century The leaders of the renaissance movement in India always had a great response in this district. Keshab Chandra Sen, the great Brahmo saint and preacher was lionised by the Maharaja of Dumraon in the eighties of the last century A number of Brahmo nuclei had been set up through Keshab's efforts. Some of his meetings were presided over by Jai Prakash Lal, the Dewan of the Dumraon Raja and by Naga *Baba* the spiritual *guru* of the Maharaja This catholicity was also shown in later years when the other Hindu preachers, theosophists and politicians had stirred up the district People have now forgotten that the first All India Kayastha Conference was presided over by Shri Jai Prakash Lal of Dumraon It may be some news to the present generation that some of the Kulharia Babus had attended the first and second sessions of the Indian National Congress. The zamindars of the district, the Dumraon Raj, the Kulharia Babus and

* *Between Oxus and Jamuna* by A. J Toynbee, page 2

others had liberally endowed many charitable institutions, hospitals, schools, etc., and even in our own days one of them was a liberal patron of music and other fine arts. In spite of some of the zamindars being philanthropic and a large area of the district well-irrigated and fertile, this district was in the vanguard of the Kisan agitation Swami Sahajananda Saraswati, Bhabani Dayal Sanyasi and others literally aroused the Kisans and raised a storm that gave a severe blow to the British Raj and broad based the Congress movement which richly reaped dividends because of the Kisan agitation. The spirit of freedom that was personally seen by the editor in the thirties of this century when the Congress movement was at its height found its expression in smilingly facing severe lathi-charges and the bullets of the police Batches after batches of volunteers used to offer themselves for arrest and physical belabouring when the Congress flag was being attempted to be torn down Again in 1942 movement the enthusiasm knew no bounds and that found its expression in many excesses that were unfortunate The winning of independence has brought in many problems to the district The phase of industrialisation and the concomitant labour troubles are the present main features of this district In order to appreciate the wide socio economic changes in the district one has to look into the colourful history of the area as their background

BACKGROUND

This area was known, in early days, as the land of *Karushas*—a troubled area consisting of autonomous non-Aryan tribes. The early and later Vedic literatures do not mention them It is in the tangled skein of the *Pauranic* traditions, that *Karushas* are mentioned. According to the *Padma Purana* (IV 274 16-17) their earliest king Dantavakra, was of *Chedi* lineage His father was Vriddhasarman and mother Srutadevi His family is reported to have had marital relations with the *Chedis*, the *Yadavas* and the *Pandavas*. Dantavakra was killed by Krishna at Mathura The *Mahabharata* too, combines them with the *Karushas* (II 51 8), while *Karusha* happens to be the name of one of the nine sons of Manu They were a gallant people The *Bhagavata Purana* mentions that the *Karushas* were stout defenders of the faith (IX ii 11 :1), and valorous fighters (IX 29)* Dantavakra was supposed to be an *Asura*.

ASURA PROBLEM.

Historically interpreted, this accumulation of traditions, possibly amount to the eastern expansion of the Vedic Aryans The term

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* F. F. Pargeiter—(i) *Ancient Indian Historical Trad.* page 259
(ii) of —R K Choudhary—*The Vratyas in Ancient India* (Benaras—1964).

Asura need not be taken as implying an ogre. King Vali, the husband of Sudeshna, who obtained five sons from the Aryan sage Dirghatamas by the *Niyoga* or *Kshetraja* system, was neither a giant nor an ogre.* *Asura* was probably an ethnic term for a particular race or the original inhabitants of *Bharatavarsha*. The *Asura*† problem, is yet to be properly studied. There is an overwhelming majority of instances in which the word '*Asura*' is used in a good sense, the bad sense being in a minority. The probability lies in the conclusion, that bitter hostility existed between the Aryans and the *Asuras*. In the *Satapatha-Brahmana* (XIII viii. 1-5) there is a passage which states that, one *Asura* race was the ***Prachyas***, which we know, was the term to designate the people of Eastern India, particularly Magadha.‡ Dr A Banerji Sastri, has dealt with this problem, no doubt in his work—*Asura India;* but, he does not appear to have touched the Indian evidence about the *Asuras*. *Asuras* are also mentioned by Panini, the grammarian, and according to him spoke probably a *Mlechcha* language. Thus it is evident that the whole area of Shahabad, south of the Ganga had been inhabited by a set of people who were pronouncedly anti-vedic in the beginning and they were gradually brought under the Aryan fold.

Location and extent.

F. E. Pargiter placed Karusha-desa as extending from Rewa to Bihar**. According to Panini (IV. i 178) this is the area. Dr B. C. Law thinks that, they had four different settlements. First at Rewa, the second was in Shahabad as stated in the ***Balakanda*** of *Ramayana* (XXVIII 18—23) the third was in Pundra-desa (*Bhagavata Purana*, X Chap 66) and the last was in the Vindhyas (*Vayu*, Chap 45 *Matsya* Chap 114 54 and *Markandaya* Chap. 57 53 5).

From an analysis of the *Pauranic* data the earliest home of the *Karushas* seems to have been near Rewa and the adjoining Mirzapur hills, on the Vindhyas (*Vindhyaprishtha nivasinah*) as recorded in (*Vayu* Chap 45, *Matsya* Chap 114 54 and ***Markandaya*** Chap. 57 53 5). From there they possibly migrated in two directions. One party proceeding towards Malava then known as Dasarna and Avanti, as mentioned in the ***Bramhanda Purana;*** while the second party following the Bhojas settled from Mirzapur-Shahabad to Palamau and Singhbhum as stated in the ***Balakanda*** of ***Ramayana***. It was here that, geographers of *Vishnu Purana* locate them.

* D. R. Patel—*Cultural History of the Vayu Purana*, Poona, 1946, pages 46 ff

† cf—A. Banerji Sastri—*Asura India* (Patna—1926).

‡ *Annals of the Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute*, Vol XII, p. 109 ff.

** *Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal*, 1895, page 259

And Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society, 1914, page 271.

For geographical description, cf—Dr B C Law—***Historical Geography of Ancient India***.

associated with the *Matsyas, Kasis, Chedis,* the *Panchalas* and *Bhojas.* When these territories were conquered, they probably migrated to *Pundra* (North Bengal) Here, misfortune drove them through the maize of hills and jungles of Sumhadesa (modern Midnapore, Singhbhum, etc.), later known as *Atavidesa* or *Mahakantara* to the peninsular region, where *Markandaya Purana* locates them While the branch that had settled near Dasarna and Avanti, probably due to the emigration of the Malava tribe from the Punjab, settled near Arbuda hill (modern Mount Abu) It is here that *Vishnu Purana* (BK. II. Chap 3) locates them. It is probable that the descendants of those people who stayed on in Shahabad, came to be known as Bhars, Cheros, who according to the local tradition, were the earliest occupants of the country.

Mythology.

The mythological tales commence with an *Asuri* in Shahabad in general and Sasaram (Sahasaram) in particular. We are informed that, Sahasrarjuna, having been defeated by Parasurama, fled to Sasaram and died there Over his mortal remains memorials are reported to have been erected Beginning from this, we find, that, throughout the historical times, Shahabad became the refuge of the defeated peoples, whose turbulance was a source of great irritation to succeeding imperialists Rock Edict XIII of the Emperor Asoka, mentions that 'Nay, if any one does (him) wrong, the Beloved of the gods must bear all that can be borne And (the people of) the forests which are in the dominions of the Beloved of the gods he conciliates and exhorts The might of the Beloved of the gods, though he is repentant, is told them--why? In order that they may express sense of shame, and not be killed" Many Rajputs and unknown Kharwar chiefs* had revolted against the temporal power of Hindusthan in the jungles of Shahabad

Dawn of History.

Very little information about the palaeolithic to chalcolithic† periods of Indian history are available about Shahabad This is due to the lack of systematic investigations in the area, since humanistic studies were commenced in the country The numerous rock shelters reappropriated by the Hindus show that in pre-historic periods Shahabad had innumerable cultural stations

Mauryan Period.

Karusha was annexed to Magadha and thus in 400 B.C Shahabad district formed a part of Magadh ‡

* The series of Inscriptions at Bandhughat below Rohtas give the names of various Kharwar chiefs.

† Regarding the Chalcolithic age, it may be mentioned that terra-cottas recovered at Buxar indicate the extents of the cultural influence of the Indus Valley eastwards [R C. Majumdar (ed)—The Vedic Age London 1957, page 195]

‡ R. R Diwakar, *Bihar Through the Ages*, 1959, page 52.

The first historical record in the land of the *Karushas*, is a Minor Rock Edict of Emperor Asoka, in a rock shelter, on the Chandan Sahid's hill. V A Smith thought that formerly there were possibly many Hindu monuments on the top. Other Minor Rock Edicts found elsewhere, the most important of which are at Rupnath, Yerragudi, etc, were inscribed at spots, where local deities used to be and are still worshipped by the Hindus Secondly, as the late Dr D. R Bhandarkar has pointed out that, these edicts are mostly found at places which separate Asoka's dominions from those of his independent and semi-independent neighbours * And, both Rupnath and Sasaram edicts were inscribed at the western and eastern frontier of a primitive forest area, known as *Atavi* country The edicts are very simple, and do not go into details, in clarifying the character of the imperial religion, as has been done on the rocks and pillars in more advanced areas of the empire This is significant and suited the primitive folks who were a source of anxiety to the Emperor.

Regarding the location of the *Atavi* country it is clarified in Rock Edict XIII, which deals with the *antas* or the frontier territories. Centuries after the downfall of the Mauryan Empire, another Emperor Samudragupta, refers to this territory as 'all the kings of the forest country' Elucidation of this 'forest country' is met with, in the Khoh Copper Plate of Maharaja Samkshoba where, the monarch is credited as the ruler of 18 forest kingdoms *Vana rastras* (forest states or republics), as opposed to *Vana-rajyas* (forest kingdoms), are referred to in *Brihat Samhita* (XIV, 29-30) in the north-east division of India *Ramacharitam* of Sandhyakaranandi, a work of the 11th century A D. mentions Lakshamisura, as the principal feudatory of the *Atavika* territory The latest echo of these is probably preserved in *Atthara-desas* (18 States) in Orissan history Very correctly the late Dr D. R Bhandarkar concluded that the *Atavika* country extended from Baghelkhand to the sea coast of Orissa.†

ANCIENT PERIOD

Then for centuries, we have no information. The empire of the Sungas, the Kanvas, the Ailas of Orissa, the Kushanas, all became 'one with Nineveh and Tyre'. Shahabad, undoubtedly, was included in the empire of the Guptas In the 7th century of the Christian era, we start getting light from various sources First is Udayasena of *Mundesvari*, in the present Bhabhua subdivision, whose inscription, found at that place in two pieces tells us, that in the 30th year of the Harsha era (636 A.D), *Dandanayaka*

* D. R. Bhandarkar.—Asoka (edi.) page 35 ff

† Op. cit. page 42.

Gornibhata, erected the temple of God *Vinitesware*, while *Mahasamanta Mahapratihara Maharaja* Udayasena was ruling there. The Mundesvari then was known as Mandalesvari *

Sasanka

The next is king Sasanka, described as lord of Gauda, in Bana's *Harsha Charita*, and as king of *Karnasuvarna*, by the Chinese pilgrim, Hiuen-Tsiang Early in his life, he seems to have been a feudatory Because, at Rohtasgarh we have his seal, inscribed on the rock, with the legend, *Mahasamanta* (महासामंत) Sasanka † Anarchy was then reigning in Magadha—the long contest between the Guptas and the Maukharis were about to end with the extinction of the latter dynasty It was probably from this area that Sasanka reached Kanauj and defeated and killed Grahavarman, the husband of Rajyasri, the sister of Harsha, and later Harsha's elder brother, Rajyavardhana It was from here that Sasanka succeeded in stabilising his power and taking advantage of the chaotic political condition, he laid the foundation of a considerably big kingdom with his headquarters at Karnasuvarna. The end of Sasanka is still unknown to history, but, it is quite possible, that he met with a natural death, after he had lost the territories in the plains, by the allied armies of Kanauj and Kamarupa kings; and retired to the jungle clad ancient *Atavika country*.

Hiuen-Tsiang

The next, is the visit of the Chinese pilgrim, Hiuen-Tsiang, who passed by the safer route along the Ganga The pilgrim entered Shahabad, from Ghazipur-Balia side, and visited the city of Mahasara The city was inhabited by the followers of the Brahminical faith and there were no Buddhists This is identified with Masar, a village six miles west of Arrah town At that time, the Ganga which now flows 10 miles north of the place had a channel near the village The other places visited by him, have been identified by General Cunningham, with Arrah but the passage of the itinerary is not quite clear whether the site of the stupa of taming of the demon "*Atavika*" was on the north or south side of the Ganga.

From the Shapur inscription of Adityasena, it appears that the founder of *Pax-Magadhika* was the sovereign of Shahabad from the very beginning of his reign and the tradition was successfully continued by Jivitagupta II

LATER GUPTAS OF MAGADHA.

The Deo-Varunark Inscription of Jivitagupta II, is a valuable source of information for the history of Shahabad during this dark period. Deo-Varunark is a village in the headquarters subdivision

* This inscription is now in the Indian Museum, Calcutta. N. G Majumdar takes the date to be Gupta era, which does not appear to be supported by palæography.

† cf.—R K Choudhary—*Select inscriptions of Bihar.*

of Shahabad district Jivitagupta was the son of Vishnugupta and his queen Ijjadevi The inscription, is on two contiguous faces of a pillar, in the entrance hall of a temple, on the west side of the village, whose ancient name was Varunika (वरुणिका) Incidentally, it mentions, that the land being granted to the God was previously granted by Baladitya, Sarvavarman and Avantivarman The two latter kings, belonged to the Maukhari dynasty of Kanauj. The last named king again, was the father of the unfortunate Grahavarman, who was defeated and killed by King Sasanka The Maukhari dynasty was founded by Harivarman, after the decline of the Gupta Empire But, it was Isanavarman, who established their empire Sarvavarman was his son Sarvavarman was the first Maukhari king to annex Magadha permanently His imperial seal has been found at Nalanda and Asirgarh Dr Barnett, is of the view which may be accepted that his territory extended, from Ahichhattra (modern Ramanagar), in the Bareilli district of Uttar Pradesh, to Nalanda and Asirgarh The mention of these kings, in an inscription of a rival dynasty, proves that the fertile plains of Shahabad, if not the whole district, were probably lost to the Maukharis, after Sarvavarman, and therefore, the grant of land to the Sun Temple at Varunika (वरुणिका) had to be revived

Yasovarman of Kanauj

The next to rule over Shahabad, was probably King Yasovarman of Kanauj whose historicity, can no longer be denied An uncritical but detailed history of the short lived triumph of this king, is derived from a *Prakrit Kavya* named *Gaudavaho*, composed by Vakpatiraja He was a junior contemporary of the more famous Bhavabhuti * *Gaudavaho* states, that after issuing from his capital at Kanauj, the king came to a hilly country where he halted during the rains. The identity of the area, is clarified by the incident of his worshipping Vindhesvari Devi led by a *Savara* † Therefore, his retreat during the monsoon was the hill tracts of Mirzapur district. After the end of the monsoon, he pursued the retreating king of Magadha (*Magadhanatha*), identified with Jivitagupta II by the late Rama Prasad Chanda The king of Magadha, was ultimately defeated and killed in a swampy land Yasovarman is reported to have built a town on the site of the battlefield. This is identified with the village of Ghosrawan, in Bihar subdivision, of Patna district

The route followed by Yasovarman is easily recognizable The first question is the location of the capital of Magadha from where he was flying Pataliputra was already in ruins, and covered with jungles Therefore, it may be reasonably conjectured that there can be two places where the Magadha capital was located, either the

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* Cf *Patna District Gazetteer* (James)

† This deity has her shrine in Mirzapur She is a celebrated non-Aryan deity

ancient Vedagarbhapura (modern Buxar) or Biharsharif, in whose neighbourhood the battle took place. If, either of the alternatives, is a valid presumption, then it follows that, Yasovarman seems to have come to Shahabad, like Bajirao I and possibly reached Ghosrawan by Sasaram, Daudnagar, Manpur and Bihar route. In any case, his conquest of Shahabad is definite.

The Saila Dynasty and Lalitaditya

The next monarch was the Saila king of the Central Provinces. Our information is derived from a land grant Ragholi copper plates of Jayavardhana. It informs us that, the elder brother of his great grandfather, inflicted a defeat on an unnamed or unspecified Paundra King, expert in defeating his enemies and annexed his territory. This royal family known only from this grant seems to have had a distinguished history. The family is reported to have held some territory in the Himalayan region—emigrating from which, they conquered the Gurjara country. Still later they migrated to the east, and three brothers established themselves at Kasi, Vindhyadesa (Mirzapur and Shahabad) and Paundra. It is possible that they passed through and conquered Shahabad too. The palæography of this record belongs to the 8th century A.D. The glories of Yasovarman and the Saila family were probably eclipsed by Lalitaditya—Muktapida of Kashmir. According to Kalhana Misra, his *digvijaya* comprised not only the whole of northern India, but southern India as well up to Kaveri river and Malaya mountains. Since, Kalhana credits the Kashmirian monarch with defeating Yasovarman, there can be little doubt about our assumption. The same reliance however cannot be placed, in respect of Jayapida, except indicating possibly, that the alleged conquests of northern and southern India, by Lalitaditya, were merely temporary gains. No permanent results ensued from the campaign. Next came Vatsaraja of Bhinmal, the Gurjara monarch. All these repeated invasions created anarchy in Bihar which ended with the feudal lords ushering in the Pala dynasty.

The Pala Empire

Gopala, the founder of the dynasty, consolidated his position in Bengal. The extension of the Pala power in northern India, was made by his more famous son Dharmapala who was installed as an Emperor, in the presence of the chiefs of Kuru, Yadu, Avanti, Gandhara, Kira, Bhoja, Matsya and Madra countries, possibly at Ahichhatra. The mention of Bhoja clearly suggests, as C. Mark* pointed out as early as 1907, that Berar, Mirzapur and Shahabad, where Bhojpur still exists, were included in the first Pala Empire. The empire, however, disintegrated, and the finds of Pratihara

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* C. Mark—*The Geographical data of Dasakumara Charitram and Raghuvamsam*. Leipzig 1907, pages 28 and 87, ff.

(Gurjara) inscriptions in Gaya, Biharsharif and Nalanda indicate that Shahabad along with major portion of south Bihar was conquered by Mahendrapala.

The Pala dynasty, however, revived in the 11th century A.D. in the time of Mahipala I, whose, bases of operation, seem to have been Anga (Bhagalpur), *Kajangala* (Santal Parganas and Purnea) and Magadha (South Bihar). The find spots of his inscriptions would support this theory. He, however, came into conflict with Rajendra the Great, Chola Emperor, and Kalachuri king Gangeyadeva. The struggle continued during the reigns of their successors The Paikor Image Inscription in West Birbhum possibly indicates the area of the second conflict. The most rational way, to explain these seemingly conflicting and contradictory evidences, of territorial possessions, is to explain them as temporary gains, the areas changing hands repeatedly In the wake of Kalachuri invasion came the Chalukyas under the Vikramaditva, and possibly Orissan legions, under Mahasivagupta—Yayati The former left its back wash, in the form of Karnata dynasties of Mithila and Radha. Mahasivagupta—Yayati's claims of conquests have, however, yet to be established What is evident is that, the fabric of the great Pala Empire was again crumbling to dust, and Shahabad was probably lost to them The revival of the empire, for the third time, by Ramapala, probably again saw Shahabad under the Pala rulers, and it is probably to this area, that Govindapala must have turned when he lost the control of the plains

The rock inscription discovered by Dr D C Sircar at Silsila in this district indicates that in the year 1162 V S (c. 1105-06 A D) there was grant of some land within Varanasi by Vanuti as a *Sona sasana* when Nayaka Angasimha was ruling at Vanthiam-Pathara-pura. It is difficult to determine his exact status because Varanasi area was being ruled by Gahadavala Maharaja Madanapala (c 1104-13 A D) It was his father Chandradeva seems to have extended his dominions over Kasi, Uttara Kosala, etc * Since he was granting land within Varanasi, in all probability he had sworn fealty to the Gahadavala monarch But in those bygone ages, feudalistic loyalties were not so clearly defined, except when reinforced by armed force.

THE GAHADVALAS

The decay of the Pala Empire, led to the extension of the Gahadvala dominions in the east The most important reigns for our purpose are those of Govindachandra (1114—1152 A.D.) and his successors, who definitely annexed Gaya and Shahabad. The Maner Copper Plates of the same monarch dated in V S. 1183 (c. 1124 A D) shows that, his conquests extended up to Patna district. But the *Tarachandi Rock Inscription*, near Sasaram,

* Roma Niyogi The History of the Gahadavala Dynasty, page 18 ff

clearly establishes his anne[illegible]bad. This record, which is the earliest evidence of cor[illegible]l services, in ancient and mediæval India, is of [illegible] importance It was inscribed on a rock shelter (*pragbhara*), dated in V S 1225 (1168-69 A.D) by *Mahanayaka* (महानायक) Pratapadhavaladeva, lord of Japila (Sic. Japla). It proclaims as fraud, the grant of the villages of Kalahandi and Badapila by the lord of Kanauj, Vijayachandradeva, son of Govindachandradeva, to certain Brahmins, living in the villages in the neighbourhood of Kalahandi, and obtained, by bribing (*Utkochya*) Deva, an officer of the sovereign of Gadhinagara.*

One of the great moments of Indian epigraphy is the tracing of the spurious Sonhal land grant dated in V S 1223, by Dr D C. Sircar granting the villages of Badaila and Kirihindi to the Brahmans of Svarnahala (mod Sonhal). It is this record that was declared to be a fraud by *Nayaka* Pratapadhavala of Japila (now in Palamau district) lord of Rohtasgarh, in the above mentioned Tarachandi rock inscription near Sasaram †

Gahadvalas and Turkis.

Before proceeding to describe the end of Gahadvala rule in Shahabad, it may be mentioned that it will not be correct to agree that Bihar must have felt the weight of muslim arms and zeal of muslim missionaries long before its conquest by Muhammad ibn Bakhtyar Khalji This theory is more or less based on the discovery of the Maner Copper Plate dated in V S 1183, or 1126 A D of Gahadvala (Vulgo *Gharwar*) king, Govindchandra of Kanauj, granting lands to a Brahmin of *pargana* (*pattala*) Manihari and mentioning the levy of an obligatory tax "*turushka danda*" or 'Turks' duty"———‡ This assumption does not appear to be correct Admittedly the '*Turushka-danda*", was a special levy to fight the Turks, who were sometimes also referred to, in mediæval records as *Hammiras* (Amirs). But it was not Bihar merely that was involved, since, it is mentioned in many other records, not found in Bihar. The epigraphs of Gahadvala dynasty, acquaint us fully with the situation, and we find that, for generations they have been fighting successfully the Muslim encroachments from the north An uniform and consistent claim has been made in the Gahadvala records in respect of these indecisive actions For example, it is stated that Chandradeva protected the holy places of *Kasi* (*Varanasi*), *Kusika* (*Kanauj*), *Uttara Kosala* (*Ayodhya*) and *Indrasthana* (?) against them.** The Rehan grant claims that a muslim king laid aside his enmity on seeing the display of valour

* *Journal of American Oriental Society*, *Vol VI*, pages 547—49.

† Indian Archæology —A Review, 1960 61, page 44.

‡ *Current Affairs of* 1951, page 5.

** *Indian Antiquary*, Vol XVIII, page 13, fn 18

by Govindachandra.* Th[illegible] Inscription of Kumaradevi, states that "Hari, who had [illegible] commissioned by Hara to protect Varanasi from wicked Turushkas, as the only one who was able to protect the earth, was again born from him, his name was Govindachandra".† As long as Govindachandra ruled over Uttar Pradesh, no Turks could advance up to Bihar, and we shall have again occasion to note that, even after Chandawar, they continued the struggle, of which no mention has been made by the Muslim historiographers

Pratapadhavala.

The *Nayaka* (नायक) Pratapadhavala of Japila (modern Japla), evidently, was the *Durgaswamin* of Rohitasva (Rohtasgarh). He is mentioned in several inscriptions found at Rohtasgarh and the adjoining territories ‡ His earliest record is that found near Tutla (Sic. Tutrahi) falls dated in V S 1214 (1157-58 A.D) Unfortunately, the inscription has never been edited Phulwari, which according to Kielhorn, is the name of a part of Rohtasgarh, better known as Khane Bagh or flower garden, has supplied another inscription, which is now missing It was also dated in 1225 V S. (1168 69 A D), recording the construction of a road at Phulwari The next inscription is dated in V S 1279 (Sunday, the 5th March, 1223 A D) about 80 years after the battle of Chandawar Significant changes are met with in this record First, Pratapa (dhavala-) is no longer described as *Mahanayaka* (General) but *Kshitindra* (lord of the earth), and was filling the earth with great fame, having in mere sport cut up the *Yavanas*** The last inscription was found at a place called Lal-Darwaza near Rohtasgarh

Tutla also known as Tutrahi is five miles west of Tilothu, where the neighbouring ranges of hills form a knee High upon the rocks, on a terrace, is a small sculpture of *Mahishamarddini* Amongst many miscellaneous records and around the crude rock cut figure of a female divinity, there is an inscription, which according to Bloch, has a date corresponding to Saturday the 9th April, 1158 A D belonging to *Mahanayaka* (महानायक) Pratapadhavala Deva He appears to have made a pilgrimage, accompanied by Sulhi, his brother's wife Tribhuvanadhavala (possibly his brother).

* *Epigraphia Indica*, Vol IX, page 824, ff

† *Epigraphia Indica*, Vol IX, page 324, ff.

‡ Pratapadhavala belonged to the Khayaravala dynasty which ruled in the Shahabad district in the 12th Century A D From epigraphic evidence, he appears to have ruled at least for about 11 years from V S. 1214/1158 A D. to V. S 1225/1169 A.D. The Khayaravala dynasty is probably represented today by the Kharwar tribe which still occupies the region round Rohtasgarh and claims descent from the sun

** *Epigraphia Indica*, Vol IV, page 811, ff.

Somali, Lakshmaditya, his sons Satrughana, Viradhana and Sahasadhavala, five concubines: Laduma, Layaka Alhi, Puttriki and Ekali, his treasurer—Devaraja, his door keeper—Vimala, and his court Pandit—Visvarupa *

Advent of the Turks

The conquest of Koil, in 1194 A D, had opened the gates of the Upper Gangetic Valley, as well as of the east, to the Turkish converts to Islam Koil was given as fief to Hisham-ud-din Aghulbak by Sultan of Ghor The muslim analysts are silent about the extent of Hisham-ud-din's domain, but, it was he, who bestowed Bhuili and Bhagwat, to Malik Ikhtyar-ud-din Muhammad ibn Bakhtyar Khalji The grant has a great significance for the historian. First with the pre-historic Chunar, as his base of operations, the Khalj Malik with the unprepossessing appearance, carried fire and sword in the neighbouring district The whole of Magadha went out in flames Minhaj-ud-din Siraj who wrote, half a century after the death of the conqueror, tells us that, on hearing of the Turkish occupation of Magadha, for a year, the better and wealthier classes were migrating to East Bengal (East Pakistan) The background of this emigration is not difficult to imagine Populous habitations must have been destroyed and burnt and the long columns of refugees had to fly for life Then it was a move from the west to the east and not from east to the west as in our own times.

But it cannot be said that Hindu resistance had completely collapsed, as borne out by some epigraphic finds during the last half a century The first of these was the discovery of a copper plate at Machlishahr dated in 1253 and 1257 V S which states that *Paramesvara-Maharajadhiraja-Paramabhattaraka-Parama Mahesvara-Asvapati-Gajapati-Narapati-rajatrayadhipati*, etc. (परमेश्वर-महाराजाधिराज-परम भट्टारक=परम महेश्वर अश्वपति-गजपति-नरपति-राजत्रयाधिपति). Sri Harischandra, mediating at the feet of Sri Jaichandradeva, granted the land to certain Brahmins † This Harishchandra was born in V S 1232 on the 8th day of *Bhadra* equivalent to 10th August, 1175 A D because, on account of his *jatakarman* ceremony and cutting of his navel, a Brahmin was granted a village by his father, Jaichandra ‡ It is quite evident, that Harischandra maintained his independence, after the battle of Chandawar, when, muslim historiographers seem to indicate the extinction of the dynasty, after the death of Jaichandra

* *Annual Progress Report of the Superintendent, Archaeological Survey of India, Bengal Circle*, 1902, pages 20-21

† *Epigraphia Indica*, Vol X, page 93

‡ *Ibid* Vol IV, page 127

MACHLISHAHR GRANT AND BELKHARA PILLAR INSCRIPTION.

Next is the Belkhara Inscription, noticed by Cunnigham and discussed by R D Banerji and Dr. R. S Tripathi. Belkhara is a village, 15 miles to the south of Ahraura Road Station, on the Mughalsarai-Mirzapur-Allahabad Section, of the Northern Railway; and is situated about two miles from the big village of Ahraura in the Mirzapur district of Uttar Pradesh At this place, there is a stone pillar, engraved with two inscriptions, one of which has become very much defaced. The other's object, was to record, the erection of this very pillar, by a person named *Rauta* Sakaruka, son of *Rauta* Ananda, when *Ranaka* (राणक) Vijayakarna, was the ruler of Belasara, or modern Belkhara But, the incidental information that it furnishes is of considerable importance * The name of the sovereign has been very unfortunately lost, but significantly enough, it starts with "*Parama Bhattarakatyedi*" (परमभट्टारकत्यादि) and ends in "Vachaspati" so that it is not difficult to determine the lacuna The date is 1253 but the era is referred to as commencing from the conquest of Kanyakubja, which is to be equated with the Vikrama Samvat, and the year comes to 1196-97 A D, that it, two years after the death of Jaichandra, when a king of Kanauj was briefly mentioned It appears, therefore, plausible, that *Ranaka* (राणक) Vijayakarna, was originally a feudatory of the Gahadvala kingdom, and after the dynasty, had met with its Waterloo at Chandawar, continued to maintain himself independently in the fastness of the Vindhya hills He probably declared his independence, but merely showed lip-allegiance to the fugitive Gahadvala king Not far from him, were the two other great factors, which have to be taken into consideration First in the jungles of Gorakhpur Basti Deoria, and Jaunpur was the 18-year old *dejure* monarch, fighting his battles with the help of a loyal people, to regain his kingdom At his back, was the General or the *Marechal* of Japla, Pratapadhavala, lord of Rohtasgarh.

Khayaravalas or Kharwars.

Bakhtiyar's appointment at Chunar was a necessity The new Muslim power, in the Doab and Ayodhya, had been imperilled, by the 18 year old boy of Jaichandra, at one hand and the loyal feudatories of the former Gahadvala kings in ancient Karushadesa It also appears that the displaced persons in groups came to Shahabad This information has been gathered from a later work; *Tarikh-i-Ujjainia*, in Urdu, and *Udwant Prakasa* by Mauli Kavi, written in the 18th century A D ; and the last, but not the least, the manuscript of Bodharaja, a native Pugal, in Bikaner, composed in

* *Journal and Proceedings of the Asiatic Society of Bengal* (N. S.) Vol. VII, 1911, page 757, ff. *R S. Tripathi*, History of Kanauj. Some inscriptions have recently been discovered from the district and they are yet unpublished. These inscriptions are said to be in possession of Dr. D C. Sircar and Shri S. V. Sohoni, Commissioner of Patna Division

1719 V.S. (1662-63 A D) Bodharaja had come to Bihar and stayed at the historically important village Jagdishpur, for six months, and visited many other places to collect information about the scattered 'communes' of the Paramara Rajputs (vulgo *Puar Rajputs*) In fact, not only were his journeys, very scientific, but, the information supplied by him, when checked with other sources, have always been found to be correct Even the dates of the rival Muslim kings are accurate Mauli Kavi's Udwant *Prakasa* is a historical *Kavya* in Bhojpuri; and it has all the defects of a work, where poetic imagination has been allowed free play The *Tarikh-i-Ujjainia* in four volumes, published by the Nawal Kishore Press, is very uncritical and does not discriminate between fiction and historical facts In Bihar, these *emigre* Rajputs are known as "*Ujjainia*" and are now divided into several branches, residing at Bhojpur, Dumraon, Buxar and Jagdishpur.

Khalj Maliks of Lakhnawati.

With Chunar (Sk *Charanadri* चरनाद्रि) as his base of operations, Bakhtyar Khalji put ancient Vedagarbhapura (Buxar), Mahasara (Masarh), etc , to flames From Chunar, after accumulating men and money the Khalj Malik conquered Udandapura (Adwand Bihar or modern Biharsharif) During the intervening period between the fall of Adwand Bihar and the conquest of West Bengal, the Khalj Malik gave up the whole of Magadha, Anga, Kajangala to the swords and flames When the aged ruler of Bengal, surrendered easily, he proceeded to Deokot, in the Dinajpore district, from which place, he planned the China campaign, the failure of which, sent him to a premature grave

R D Banerji in his monumental *History of Bengal* (Vol II) discusses the question if Bihar passed silently within the sphere of Sultan Qutb-ud din Aibak or not Before the Muslim conquest, Bihar was divided at least in four distinct divisions Magadha or South Bihar, Anga or East Bihar, Kajangala or the modern districts of Santhal Parganas, portions of Bhagalpur beyond the Ghogha and part of Purnea district and Mithila or Tirhut or Northern Bihar (ancient *Tirabhukti*) Of these, the Rohtas Valley remained independent Sheltered by inaccessible natural fortresses of forests or mountains, the minor chieftains and the landholders were with difficulty made to acknowledge Islamic sovereignty Others, less favourably situated, were driven from their lands and lived the life of outlaws, until their continued harassing tactics drove the proud conquerors to come to terms Muslim arms practically did not touch Palamau or the whole of Chotanagpur Division or the sub-mountain region of Monghyr, Santal Parganas, etc Their hold was probably on the fertile crescent in Shahabad, Patna, Gaya, Bhagalpur to Sakrigali and possibly portions of Mithila.

It is also not known what arrangements were made for Bihar by the Khalj Malik Most probably it became an appanage of Lakhnawati The rulership of Bengal and Bihar was not bestowed by the Sultan of Ghor or his Viceroy at Delhi, but, was won at the initiative of the leader of the Muslim expansion in the east. Significantly enough, the Khalj Maliks elected Mohammad Shiran in 1207 A D, and he did not acknowledge it, as a gift, either from Sultan of Ghor or Qutub-ud din

Independent Shahabad

This period again was distinguished by an effort on the part of the Hindu feudal lords in Bihar, to throw off the Muslim yoke, and a considerable change in the population, due to the replacement of massacred or converted sections by the *emigre* Rajputs. Foremost of these, were the Paramara and the Chauhan Rajputs They took shelter with the ruling *aborigine* Chero and Kharwar chiefs of Rohtas These Rajputs, soon replaced in the jungle covered plains of Shahabad, the Chero and other aboriginal tribes. The pre-historic Rohtas, however, continued to remain in the hands of the Kharwars Nevertheless, neither the Cheros, nor the Kharwars were sufficiently powerful to resist the muslim invaders, and in course of time, portions of the district merged with that of the muslim state Bihar was then not a *Subah*, for which it had to wait for Sher Shah With the accession of Iltutmish, on the throne of Delhi, this *status quo* was disturbed Minhaj-ud-din Siraj states that, it was he (Iltutmish) who sent forces on several occasions to Lakhnawati, and on one of these occasions, he separated Bihar and put Izzuddin Malik Jani in separate charge of Bihar * But, as soon as Iltutmish had returned to Delhi, Hisham-ud-din Iwaz came and occupied Bihar Displaced from Bihar, Izzuddin Jani took shelter with Nasir ud din Mahmud, the Crown Prince who had been left as Governor in Oudh by Iltutmish In 1226 Nasir ud-din, along with Izzuddin, occupied Bihar when Hissamuddin was engaged in invading Kamrupa and East Bengal In the subsequent war Iwaz lost his life

While the slave kings the Tughluqs and Khaljis, spent themselves in serving their avarice and ambition, Shahabad appears to have continued to enjoy comparative peace and limited autonomy There was a strong tradition in the 19th century Bihar, mentioned by Dalton and Blockmann that Malik Ibrahim Bayyu ibn Abubakr, whose tomb, on the lonely hill of Biharsharif, is a prominent landmark, was connected with Muhammad Tughluq They credited him for fighting with many warlike tribes successfully capturing the fort of Chaichampa, in Hazaribagh district, the stronghold of Jhangra, the chief of the Santhals, defeating Hamsa Kumara, Raja

* Tabakat-i Nasiri (Raverty's Text and Translation).

of Ramgarh,* at Bargaon, near Suraj Pokhar in Nalanda; and finally pursued him up to Rohtas valley, where he killed the Indian chief. Ultimately, during the return journey, he fell a victim to an ambush, led by the dead Hindu princes' followers and was killed

TURKO-AFGHANS

The affairs of Bihar and specially that of Shahabad took a new turn, when Malik Sarwar, later ennobled as Khwaja Jehan—*Malik-us-Sharq* (the lord of the east), established himself at Jaunpur, in 1393 A D He appreciated the weakness of Bihar and was able to extend his sway towards east *Feristha* informs us, that Sultan Ghyas-ud-din of Bengal in order to cultivate friendly relations with the Jaunpur monarch, presented him with elephants and other gifts It is at this juncture, that the least known historical researches of Bodharaja, comes to our aid and render valuable assistance He records that, in V S 1450 (1393-94 A D), Khwaja Sarwar's troops, on their way through Bihar, encamped at Chaunsa Some of them seems to have clashed with Raghu Brahmins, and a riot ensued, when some followers of Kumara Gajaraj, son of the Paramara chief of Bhojpur, were passing that way The muslims were reinforced by other contingents from the Jaunpur army Gajaraj too, receiving news of the trouble rushed to the scene In the clash that followed, many muslims were reported to have been killed The defeated army had to beat a hasty retreat to Jaunpur, and it was impossible for the Islamic state to condone such an offence on the part of the *Kafirs* A punitive expedition was sent by the Tughluq *marechal* of the East Since the date agrees with the first year of the Khwaja Jehan's reign, when we know that he sent an expedition to Bihar; we may accept the account to be authentic †

SHARQIS AND PARAMARA RAJPUTS.

The punitive expedition reached the jungles of Bhojpur Hararaj died in action, and his two sons Gajaraj and Devaraj, escaped with their families Bhojpur, was sacked and burnt The followers of Gajaraj, retired to the forests and mountains, and carried on guerrilla warfare from their hilly retreat Malik-us-Sharq, was unable to humble them, till his death in 1399 A D, when Ujjanias returned to a place called Karur Gajaraj died in 1470 V S (1415 A.D.) Khwaja Jehan was succeeded by Malik Quaranful his adopted son, entitled Mubarak Shah and died in 1402 A D He was followed by his younger brother, who took the name Shams-ud-din Ibrahim Gajaraj having died intestate, was succeeded by his younger brother Jagdeva in 1473 V S. (1416-17 A D) Ibrahim Shah Sharqi occupied Karur. Jagdeva, left Karur and took shelter in the Rohtas valley, dying in 1423-24 A D Sangramadeva ascended the *gadi* of Bhojpur

* *Ramgarh is a village in Shahabad. A prince named Hamsa Kumara is* mentioned in the BANDHUGHAT *Inscriptions*

† Journal of the Bihar Research Society, Vol XLI, page 121

which was then lying in desolation His accession ceremonies were actually performed in the caves of Rehand hill He took a vow, and made his followers take the oath, not to cease from endeavouring to re-occupy Bhojpur, till the last drop of their blood For 12 years, the struggle was carried on, from the heart of the Rohtas valley Shams-ud-din Ibrahim died in 1346 A.D., and was succeeded by Muhammad Shah

This prince had inherited the vain glory of his predecessors, without their intelligence and ability Unjustifiably, he clashed with the rising power of Bahlul Lodi, and possibly neglected his eastern dominions, because, we are informed by Bodharaja that the muslims evacuated Bhojpur, when Sangramadeva regained its possession and made Dava his capital He died in 1510 V S (1453-54 A D) His eldest son—Ishwari Singh was a voluptuary In 1454 A D after a crushing defeat by Bahlul Lodi—Mahmud Shah decided to pay attention to the Chunar area It was at this time probably, in 1454, that the Jaunpur army occupied Dawa Ishwari Singh fled to the jungles, but was relentlessly pursued and killed in 1455 A D The Hindu resistance party was then led by Onkardeva, who ultimately succeeded Ishwari Singh According to Bodharaja, Mahmud Shah died in 1573 V S (1456-57 A D) which is a fact, and therefore, stamps his work as a dependable historical account of no mean value The death of Mahmud Shah, was the signal for more intensive activity by the people of Shahabad and the Jaunpur army had again to evacuate Bhojpur area His successor Hussain Shah, inherited a crown of thorns, from his would be murderer The power of Sharqis had reached the lowest ebb and the star of the Lodis was rising He had little opportunity to pay attention to the mediaeval *Atavi* country Onkardeva died in 1545 V S (1488 89 A D.) But before that, the Sharqi dynasty of Jaunpur had ceased to exist, and Hussain was a refugee Durlabhadeva succeeded Onkardeva and it was in his time, that Jamal Khan Sarangkhani, of Hissar Firoza, the patron of Hassan Khan Sur, was appointed Governor of Jaunpur, by Sikandar Lodi

The Surs of Bihar

Hassan Khan, belonged to the Sur section (Qabilah) of Mati clan (*taifa*) according to *Makhzan-i Afghana* Hussain's father, Ibrahim, was an ordinary Afghan of Roh They had no connection with the Sultans of Ghor, because the Sultans of Ghor were Turks, originally Hindus or Buddhists, but converted to Islam when the Caliphate occupied Afghanistan. The alleged royal connection, arises out of an inaccurate statement, made by the author of *Feristha*. Their ancestral home, stood on the rugged hill side called Surgurgai, a detached ridge of the celebrated Takht-i-Suliman, on the southern bank of the Upper Gumal river, in the neighbourhood of Gumal Pass In the reign of Sultan Bahlul Lodi, Ibrahim, with his young

son, Hassan, started seeking fortune, in Hindustan Farid, his first child, was born at Hissar-Firoza, but the family finally settled at Narnol.* Farid, later known as Sher Shah, was, therefore, not a native of Bihar. Jamal Khan conferred Sasaram and Khawaspur in the neighbourhood of Rohtasgarh, to Hasan Khan Sur, for reasons which are obvious Rohtas, that famous hill fort with 24 miles of fortifications, remained unconquered by the muslims where the descendants of Pratapadhavaladeva, or some succeeding dynasties, continued to rule In its neighbourhood was the Rehand hill, where, the Rajputs had repeatedly taken shelter, whenever attacked by the Jaunpur army Significantly enough, Hassan Khan was given this strategic *jagir*, for the maintenance of 500 horsemen, on behalf of the Lodi Sultans of Delhi

According to Bodhraj, after consolidating his position at Jaunpur, Jamal Khan sent a force into Bihar and naturally came into conflict with the Ujjainias or the Paramar Rajputs Durlabhadeva was defeated, and following the age old custom of his race, retired into the jungles, and the province of Bihar passed to the Sultans of Delhi Hassan Khan, was a diplomat as well as an administrator Instead of fighting the Rajputs, he tried to win their affection and came to terms with Durlabhadeva, who returned from the jungles and settled down at Bhojpur There was a peculiar affinity of family life between Hassan Khan Sur and Durlabhadeva.

Hassan Sur's Jagir

There is dearth of accurate information regarding the area and boundaries of Hassan Khan's *jagir* Prof K R Qanungo in his book "Sher Shah" has not come to any definite finding

On the southern side of muslim Bihar, lay the Rohtas valley, then inhabited by non-Aryan autonomous tribes, whom even the Indian genius, since the time of Emperor Asoka, had failed to curb Further south, were the possessions of the independent Hindu lords of Rohtas, who had never submitted to any Muslim rulers On the east, was the Son river On the west, was situated *pargana* Chaund, wrongly called 'Jaund' by Abul Fazl and Nizam-ud-din, and written as Sant by Rennell On the north, probably it was bounded by a line from Hariharganj 'on the eastern bank of the Son river (opposite Daudnagar) along Rennell's boundary line of the Rohtas district up to some 15 miles west.' It comprises roughly Barong, Sasaram and Tilothu thanas † From Tilothu, westwards the whole of Rohtas valley was inhabited by the Cheros, Savaras Kharwars and the ancestors of modern Dhangars and Bhuiyas. It is from the Chero Raja, Mukundadeva, that the Rajputs had seized the fertile crescent below the foot hills. The northern part was inhabited by

* Narnol of Badaoni?

† K. R. Qanungo—*Sher Shah*, pages 11-12.

the Hindu peasantry and middle classes, such as Ahirs, Brahmins, Bhuinhars, Koiris, Jolahas, etc The country was covered with dense jungle, the result of anarchy, arson and looting over hundred of years. An area like this would naturally have unruly people.

One must fall back on the character of early Muslim rule in India to assess the causes. A seemingly endless procession of alien rulers, belonging to a fanatical creed, administered an area, whose contributions to human civilization and culture had been great in the bygone ages The whole countryside was smothered in the iron grip of Afghan feudalism, to whom it was parcelled out The condition of the masses can easily be inferred. With no sanctity of hearth and home, with no personal rights, no religious liberty under an Islamic State, not because Islam was not liberal, but, because the tenets and theories of Islamic monarchy, were being interpreted in their own way by the converted Turko-Afghans Their homes and fields were not secure, neither from the brigands, nor from the rulers. Under such circumstances it was natural that the poor people should gather themselves in bands, and secure by force of arms, what would have been their peacefully In such circumstances, predatory habits were natural, and the blind degenerate society, lacking the ability and catholicity of the earlier days, dubbed them as the low caste people When sympathy, humanity, kindness and charity had become unknown qualities in social behaviours during the centuries, the people were bound to develop rough manners, incivility and a certain amount of propensity to take the law into one's own hands

The Tax Gatherers

The other classes, who contributed to this nation wide anarchy and insecurity of tenure and private rights, were the traditional curse of Indian people, the unscrupulous tax collectors who, always stood between the sons of the soil and their liege-lords—the *Jaigirdars*, *Talukadars*, etc , and who, cheated both the people and the landlords, as they have done throughout the existence of the zamindary system, before its abolition, at the expense, not merely of the both, but of the State and the society, enriching themselves only The feudal lords, busy with their military schemes, their dancing girls, concubines and wives, were deliberately kept in ignorance of the area actually under cultivation, of the total produce of the land, the assessed revenue and the actual collections possible or received. The ignorant and down-trodden peasantry, were cruelly exacted, with fictitious claims, non-payment of dues, by the *muqaddams*. The peasantry were merely born to toil and suffer Therefore, the only means for emancipation was robbery, plundering and carrying on the life of thieves and brigands. Generations of unaccounted for oppressions, persecutions, injustice and miseries made them what they were as found by the early Britishers at the beginning of the 19th century.

FARID KHAN.

Prof. K R Qanungo is correct that something of this sort must have faced Sher Khan, or Farid Khan as he was then known, when he returned from his self-chosen exile, at Jaunpur to his father, and he employed himself in carrying out the much needed reforms to stabilise the tottering supremacy of the Turko-Afghans over India This phase of Farid Khan's life and this period during which Lodi Sultans dominated over Bihar, is most important for the history of India. Just as the future conqueror of Waterloo tried to solve the supply problems and strategy, in a devastated country, in fighting the Marathas so Farid Khan carried on successful experiments of his technique of administration, war and strategy, in this jungle-clad Shahabad, when he was engaged in administering the *jagir* of his father He was probably the first Muslim sovereign, to realise that, India was admittedly an agricultural country, and revenue was the basic source of income of the State. His reforms, both revenue and administrative were to be continued by the mughals, even though they might have been his dynasty's conquerors. Abbas-Sarwani in his Tarikh-i-Shershahi quotes probably the fundamental truths of fiscal and revenue administrations when he states that "the cultivators are the source of property" . "I shall always watch over their condition so that no one may oppress and injure them, for if a ruler cannot protect the humble peasantry from the lawless it is tyranny to exact revenue from them."*

His problems

The problems that were facing Farid Khan were manifold. Refractory Hindu Zamindars and the non-Aryan tribes, inhabiting the hilly region had to be dealt with the reform of the civil service, in a small way, had become imperative He informed the soldiers and Amils that the oppressions and cruelties they had committed were condoned. But, if they were repeated, he would make the culprits examples to their fellow beings He threatened even punishment to his guilty relatives, so that others may be warned. Next, he appealed to the peasants, and asked them to choose the method of payment of rent Farid Khan obtained written *Kabuliats*, signed by the *raiyats*, and fixed the rate of payment, and the direct connection was established between the tillers of the soil and the *mansabdars* and *jagirdars* Later in life, we will find, Farid Khan, then grown into Sher Shah, Emperor of India employed this policy throughout the empire, but, it is a credit to Shahabad and Bihar that his first experiments were made here

Farid Khan and Shahabad

The next success to be obtained by Farid Khan, was in dealing with the refractory zamindars In this respect, fate was favourable

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* Elliot and Dowson.—*History of India as told by Historians*, Vol IV, page 314.

to him. First, his lot of an unhappy home, due to an unkind father, acting under the jealous influence of a step-mother, was shared by an illustrious Rajput prince, with whom he came accidentally into contact, and thereby paved the way for faithful and loyal services by a section of the people who had proved themselves thorns on the side of the early Muslim rulers. This was Maharaj Kumar Badal, son of Raja Durlabha. Just like Farid Khan, the Maharaj Kumar had left his paternal home and took shelter in the jungles, with a few faithful companions, and it was in this period that he met Farid Khan on his way to Jaunpur The woes common to them, bound these two young men together and the races which were so long antagonistic were allied by the bond of friendship Bodhraj gives the date of Farid's taking over administration as 1567 V.S (=1510-11 A D) Farid. persuaded Maharaj Durlabhadeva, to react favourably towards Maharaj Kumar Badal

Farid deals with rebels

He next turned his attention to some urgent tasks There were two classes of persons in the population of Shahabad to be punished. The first were the disobedient *muqaddams*, who had withheld payments The second were the Zamindars, or feudal lords like Maharatha Chero, who, would pay nothing except under compulsion Farid with his militia swooped upon the villages of the disobedient *muqaddams* The cattle, the goods, the wives and children were seized All the booty were distributed to his men but the families of the villagers, significantly enough, were kept in his personal custody, so that they would not be violated by the soldiers Crestfallen *muqaddams* had to submit, disgorge the arrears of rents, and what is more, gave security for their future good behaviour

Next came the turn of the feudal lords His preparations were thorough and detailed He supplemented his regular cavalry, with local auxiliaries, drawn from the Hindu peasantry, whose hearts he had won He took with him, half of the volunteers, and the rest were left to cultivate the fields and to protect their homes, in case of any treachery or diversion by the rebel lords With this extemporised army, he marched cautiously towards the rebel citadels He asked the infantry to clear the jungle around the villages, on completion of which, the cavalry were ordered to place a cordon around the villages, with orders to kill every male and capture the women and children, drive in the cattle, and to destroy the crops thereby establishing complete blockade The *zamindars* realising that their nemesis had come offered submission, but, Farid refused to accept at this late stage, stormed their mud forts, killed all the rebels and sold their wives and children into slavery. The devastated villages were repeopled In about 1519 A D, Hassan Sur decided to take over the control of the *jaigirs* from Farid Khan who proceeded to Agra. Simultaneously, the good treatment that the Paramara

Maharaj Kumar Badal was receiving from Durlabhadeva ceased, and the Maharaj Kumar left Behea for Jagdishpur, from where he continued to perform his duties The subsequent history of Farid Khan *alias* Sher Khan or Sher Shah has been dealt with by Smith, Qanungo and others

In 1578, Babar came to Bihar, in pursuit of the unfortunate Afghan Princes Biban Bayazid and Masruf, and visited Chaunsa near Buxar, when he restored to Sher Shah his *parganas*. Babar was unable to take interest in the affairs of Bihar and war went on between Sultans of Delhi on one side and Lohanis and Surs of Bihar on the other. While a struggle between the two Afghan factions had become inevitable, and culminated in the battle of Surajgarha, in March 1534 A.D., in the meantime, events of history marched on inexorably in the jungles of Bhojpur, Jagdishpur and Behea. On the death of Maharaja Durlabhadeva, the Ujjainias split up into three groups Badal was killed and his queen escaped with her two infant sons, Gajapati and Bairisal into jungles, where she spent 12 years in rearing them up In 1531 A D, when Sher Khan was the Deputy Governor of Bihar she sent her two sons to Sasaram They were affectionately received by Farid Khan, with whose help and encouragement Gajapati ascended the *gadi* of Bhojpur and Jagdishpur in 1533 A D In the battlefield of Surajgarha, Farid Khan was ably supported by the two sons of his deceased friend, Maharaj Kumar Badal and they distinguished themselves in action against the Bengal army Sher Khan allowed Gajapati and Bairisal to retain their portion of the spoils and tied his own jewelled sword to the former's loins and presented a jewelled armlet, necklace and a *sarpanch* Bairisal was given a horse and a sword and Buxar was allotted to him as his *jagir*

In 1537-38 A D, when Humayun reached Chunar, then the other Ujjainia faction made its appearance When Badal's step-brother Mahipata was killed by Shriorama Singh his *Rani*, too, had fled to her brother named Birman who lived at a place called Arail, near Naini junction, in the neighbourhood of Allahabad On arrival of Humayun at Chunar Birman placed his nephew, Dalpat at the foot of Humayun, and secured from him a *Farman* for Bhojpur When Humayun, after capturing Chunar, in the circumstances which are well known, proceeded towards the fort of Baharkunda, situated at a distance of 50 miles from Chunar, where Sher Shah had removed his family on the eve of the siege of Chunar, he gave some troops to Dalpat and sent him to take possession of Bhojpur. Gajapati after being defeated turned to Sher Shah who was not in a position to help him So Dalpat having made himself master of Buxar and Bhojpur proceeded to Jagdishpur Gajapati and his brother had again to retire to the jungles In the meantime Sher Khan, however, did not remain idle at Baharkunda, where, he formed a plan to occupy Rohtas He therefore, persuaded the Raja,

to give protection to the female members of his family, who were to be sent there in *dolis*. But actually the major portions of the *dolis* were occupied by armed Afghans and by treachery Rohtas, which had so long remained in Hindu hands, fell into the hands of the last Afghan monarch of India In the battle of Chaunsa (1539 A D), Humayun lost to Farid Khan, who now assumed the name of Sher Shah He built a Grand Trunk Road from Gaur to Rohtak in the Punjab He died on the 2nd May, 1545

Later Surs

At the time of Sher Shah's death at Kalanjara, none of his sons were present, the Afghan *Amirs*, elected Jalal Khan, the ablest of his sons, on the 25th of May, 1545 He took the name of Islam Shah Islam Shah died in 1553 A D and his 12 year old son Firoz Shah was placed on the throne Three days later, Muvarez, the son of Sher Shah's younger brother Nizam, murdered Firoz Shah. and ascended the throne at Delhi as Mohammad Shah Adil On receipt of this news Mohammad Khan Sur, Governor of Bengal, assumed independence, and the vast empire built by the genius of Sher Shah began to disintegrate The opportunist Humayun returned, and in the second battle of Panipat, Akbar with the help of Bairam Khan, reestablished the fallen fortunes of the Barlas Turks Bengal and Bihar gradually passed into the sphere of Sulaiman Karrani, and after him his sons Bayazid and Daud Shah, the last independent Afghan king of Bihar and Bengal.

The Mughals

Humayun had to leave his life's work incomplete, and was succeeded by Jalaluddin Akbar in 1556 A D The position of the Mughals, at the time of Akbar's accession, had been admirably summed up by V. Smith "When Akbar ascended the throne in January, 1556 he possessed no definite territory Five years later he held the Punjab formally, with the Multan district, the basin of the Ganges and Yamuna as far east as Prayaga (later known as Allahabad) and also Gwalior in Central India, and Ajmer in Rajasthan The Kabul territory (excluding Kandahar with its dependencies, then in Persian hands) was governed in practical independence by the guardians of Akbar's half brother, Mirza Mohammad Hakim The various Himalayan states, including Kashmir were completely independent Bengal, Bihar and Orissa were under the government of an Afghan prince, Sulaiman Karrani. Orissa then meant the modern Midnapur, Puri, Kattak and Balasore districts."*

The Karranis.

In 1564-65 Fateh Khan Batani and his elder brother Hussain Khan, of Rohtas, as well as Sulaiman Karrani, were approached by

* V. Smith *Akbar, the Great Mughal*, Oxford, 1917, page 56.

the hard pressed Afghans Fateh Khan Batani and his brother accompanied by Mallu Khan, descended from Rohtas hill; and occupied Biharsharif and the adjoining territories, placing Awaz Khan, son of Salim Sur on the make-shift throne Khan Zaman, Maznun Khan, etc., proceeded against them Due to the numerical strength of the Afghans, Khan Zaman was unable to give them battle and took shelter in the fort of Andaribari on the Sone At this psychological moment luck favoured the Mughals Sulaiman Karrani decided to acknowledge Akbar as his sovereign (*Akbarnama*, Vol II, page 335 *ff*) Akbar sent Hazi Mohammad Khan Seistani as plenipotentiary to Sulaiman to persuade him not to join the Afghans. When the envoy had reached Rohtas, some Afghans failing to convert him, took him to Ali Quli Khan and detained him The result of this foolish move was that, Ali Quli Khan was prevented from giving any effective help to his fellow Afghans, and what is more, ultimately, his prisoner's eloquence, persuaded Ali Quli to proceed to Akbar Later on, Ali Quli Khan succeeded in winning over Fateh Khan Batani, who was being hard pressed by Sulaiman Karrani Realising, however, the lukeworm loyalty of Fateh Khan, Ali Quli Khan returned to Jaunpur In 1572-73 A D Sulaiman Karrani died, and was succeeded by his eldest son Bayazid who was murdered according to *Makhzan-i-Afghana* by a man named Hasu, his first cousin and brother-in law, a son of Imnat Khan Karrani * Two half days later, Daud, younger brother of Bayazid, ascended the throne of Bengal, by murdering Hasu, but, he committed the blunder of antagonizing Akbar Accordingly, Khankhanan Munim Khan was sent with Lashkar Khan and Paramanand, a relation of Todarmal, as adjutants, against Daud According to *Tarikh-i Daudi*, Lodi Khan was dispatched to attack Jaunpur, who actually attacked and sacked Zamaniya In the meantime Daud Khan, having arrived at Monghyr, murdered Yusuf Khan, son of Taj Khan Karrani and son-in-law of Lodi Khan Lodi Khan sought refuge in Rohtas (*Akbarnama* Vol III, page 97) Daud, after fortifying Garhi with the help of Oatlu Khan Lohani, Guzar Khan and Shams Khan Musazai, sent a contingent to occupy Rohtas Lodi in his despair sought the help of Munim Khan. Khan-i-Khanan, despatched Hashim Khan, Tengri Quli Khan, etc, to help Lodi Khan (*Ibid* pages 96-97)

Daud Khan.

Akbar now sent Raja Todarmal, to inflict the final *coup de grace* on the Afghans, who joined Munim Khan at Tirmohini, a place where Ganga, Sarayu and Yamuna met Lodi Khan, with Afghan reinforcements reached the bank of Sone in the Shahabad district *Feristha*, however, places it at the confluence of Sone and the Ganga (Nawal Kishore Press Edition, p. 262). Luck favoured Akbar again The degenerate Turko-Afghans, could not give up

* Dorn—*History of the Afghans*, Part I, page 182

treachery and mutual suspicion, Lodi Khan was murdered by Daud Khan at the instance of Shri Hari, son of Bhavananda, father of the celebrated Pratapaditya of Jessore, Ismail, the infant son of Lodi Khan, sought sanctuary with Munim Khan The murder of Lodi Khan created further dissensions in the ranks of the Afghans, and Daud Khan took shelter within the fort of Patna. According to *Tabakat-i-Akbari* Akbar left Agra, by boat, in 1574 A D and reached Patna On his arrival there, Raja Gajapati of Dumraon, whose history after the battle of Surajgarha, we had not been able to trace, met Akbar, and was placed under Khan-i-Alam After the fall of Patna, Akbar on his return journey decided to recapture Rohtas Abul Fazl gives a very accurate and fine description of Rohtas which it is necessary to quote in full. "This fort has no equal for strength and solidity There are several villages (*dih*) on its plateau, and there are various kinds of cultivation, and these yield sufficient provision for the garrison There are abundant springs of good water, and though the fort is on the top of a hill which neighbours the sky, and on the sites of which well-water is found at a great depth, yet inside the fort sweet water pours out on a little digging. Haibat Khan Karrani and his son Bahadur Khan had strengthened the fort, and then gone to sleep in insouciance Farhat Khan was nominated for this enterprise, and Muzaffar Khan who on the day, when the Bengal Officers went off, had in a shame faced manner joined the main camp and had not had the bliss of doing homage, was appointed to accompany him His pride and vanity were cured in this way Hazi Khan Seistani, Fath Khan Maidani, Khudadad Barlas, Khwaja Shams-ud-din Khwafi, Baqu Khan Kulabi and other war-like men were appointed to assist him. This army was sent off after it had received salutary counsels".

Raja Gajapati and Bairisal.

Muzaffar Khan was sent to assist Farhat Khan feoffee of Arrah and took possession of Chaund and Sasaram When Bahadur, the son of Haibat Khan, descended from Rohtas, he was suitably mauled On the arrival of Farhat Khan their combined forces beseized Rohtas, which defied human prowess So Muzaffar Khan attempted to liquidate the remnants of the Afghan rebels in Bihar. In the 21st year (1576 A D) of Akbar's reign Raja Gajapati made his appearance again He had revolted This time Shahbaz Khan Kambu was sent against him The reasons of this *volte face* are not quite clear He was present at the fall of Patna but, he had not accompanied Khan-i-Khanan in the Bengal campaign He raided the environs of Arrah In fear, Farhat Khan, the Mughal feoffee, shut himself up in the *Garh*. Gajapati, therefore, tried to cut off the supplies of Mughal armies in Bengal, captured Peshraw Khan. Farhat Khan and his son Qartalaq Khan fell fighting against him. When the news of Gajapati's successes reached the Imperial Court,

Said Khan and Makhsus Khan, were ordered to join Kambu * But by that time, Gajapati had made himself the master, of all the territories between Buxar and Benares, on the both banks of Ganga, and was about to invest the ancient town of Ghazipur On the arrival of the Imperial army Gajapati first retired to the jungles of Bhojpur, to which the Mughal army was guided by Raja Sangram of Khargpur (in the Monghyr district) Defeated at Bhojpur, Gajapati retreated to famous Jagdishpur The dense jungles proved a great obstacle to the progress of the imperial army The Palamau campaign, of Daud Khan Qureshi, was anticipated, and for two months the vanguard of Shahbaz Khan were encouraged in cutting down trees, when the fort fell into the hands of the Mughals, with Gajapati's family It was possibly on this occasion that his daughter, or one of his daughters, was married to Prince Daniyal as noted by Abul Fazl in *Akbarnama*

Gajapati, with his brother Bairisal, retired to the Rohtas valley The army of Shahbaz Khan Kambu, followed them relentlessly, and in some unknown corner of Shahabad, Bairisal died in action Sri Rama, the son of Gajapati, with a few devoted followers shut himself up in Shergarh which Shahbaz did not hesitate to beseige When Junaid Karrani, had occupied Rohtas, over the shambles of the short lived Sur Empire, the fort of Rohtas, had been entrusted to an officer of his named Said Muhammad He surrendered the fort to Shahbaz Khan in 984 A H Soon after this Sri Rama had also to surrender

Akbar and Dalpat.

Emperor Akbar ordered that the fort of Rohtas should be handed over to Muhibb Ali Khan He founded a place called Muhbib Alipur near Rohtas In 996 A H Bihar was given to the Kachhawah prince, and Man Singh selected, Rohtasgarh, as his headquarters. The present buildings on the top of Rohtas were erected at his instance There is an inscription on the arched entrance of the *Kathautiya* gate which confirms the tradition It also states that the fortifications were completed during the *Shiqdari* of Purohit Sridhara and Gopala Dasa under the supervision of Bahai Khan Israili and Daroga Balabhandra a Brahmin The architect was Ustad Mubarak It is dated in 1015 A H (1607 A D), that is, early in the reign of Jehangir

Akbar's troubles in the Rohtas valley were not however, over. When Durlabhadeva breathed his last, a fratricidal struggle had ensued between his sons, and Mahipat's widow had retired to her father's place Her brother had placed Dalpat under the protection of Humayun After the exit of Gajapati, his cousin Dalpat decided to step in; and revolted. He detained Kokal-tash an Imperial noble

* There is a fine portrait of Shahbaz Khan Kambu seated on a terrace in the National Museum at New Delhi.

Shahbaz Khan and Khana Jahan's troops were able to plunder Jagdishpur; but forests and mud of the monsoon, bogged down the imperial forces Ultimately in 1599 Dalpat came and submitted to prince Daniyal but decided to fly He was, however, re-arrested and imprisoned Later on almost after a decade he was released The other important incident of Akbar's reign is the revolt of Prince Salim and his ultimate reconciliation Akbar died on October 16th, 1605 During his reign Rohtas marked the south-western boundary of Bihar and had 18 mahals, an area of 4,73,340 bighas and a revenue of 40,819,493 *dams*

Jehangir—the Connoisseur.

On accession to the throne, prince Salim or Jehangir, found Asaf Khan or Mirza Jafar Beg Qazwini as the Governor of Bihar. He was replaced by Lala Beg *alias* Baz Bahadur in 1605 A D. It was in his time, that the Mughals had to face the revolt of Raja Sangrama There were two Sangramas at this time in Bihar, one was the Raja of Kharagpur and the other an Ujjainia Rajput. This Sangrama Singh seems to be the son of Bairisal He had revolted shortly after Khasru's flight His area seems to have been near Rohtas, but he was defeated and fatally wounded by a gun-shot * For this successful campaign Baz Bahadur received the title of 'Jehangir Quli Khan' and was ultimately promoted as a *mansabdar* of 5,000 horses It was at this time that Ibrahim Kishwar Khan, son of Qutub-ud-din Khan Koka, was the Commandant of Rohtas.

Allauddin Islam Khan a grandson of Sheikh Salim Chisti, was appointed a *Subahdar* of Bihar, and held his office for a year merely The next Mughal Viceroy of Bihar was Abdur Rahman, son of the celebrated Abul Fazl He held the post from 1606 to 1612 A D and received Kharagpur, whose last Hindu king had been converted to Islam, as *jaigir* In 1611 A D Kishwar Khan was raised to the rank of 2 000 horses and was appointed to be the Faujdar of the country of Ujjainias, which corresponded probably to the modern Buxar and Sasaram subdivisions

At this time, the Ujjainias turned their attention to Patna area Qutb of Uch, a pretender, succeeded in gaining the support of Raja Madhukar and captured Patna, when Abdur Rahman was away to Kharagpur The son of Abul Fazl returned, defeated and killed Qutb *Baharistan-i-Ghaibi* records a tradition that Abdur Rahman and Iradat Khan led an expedition against Ananta Chero possibly some unknown Chero chief of Rohtas in 1612 A D Shakrulla, entitled Jafar Khan, son of Zain Khan Koka, and a brother-in-law of the Emperor, became the Governor of Bihar, to be succeeded by Ibrahim Khan, a brother of Noorjehan In 1621, *Shahzada* Parwez became Governor of Bihar, and it was in his reign that the rebellion of prince Khurram took place

* Beni Prasad—*Life of Jehangir*, Vol I, page 152

Revolt of Khurram.

The revolt of *Shahzada* Khurram, was not against an affectionate father, but, the petticoat government of the Empress Noorjehan. Having failed in the Punjab, Golkonda and Telingana, the prince successfully occupied Bengal and Orissa. Raja Bhim of Mewar, that valiant Guhilot, by forced marches reached Patna, where, the Dewan, Mukhalish Khan, etc., immediately fled to Allahabad. Khurram arrived a few days later, and proceeded to regulate the administration. Raja Narain Mall Ujjainia, son of Hols Shah and brother of Rudrapratap Shah gave him help. Sayed Mubarak, Commandant of Rohtas, surrendered the key of the fortress to the prince. Plans were now made for the conquest of Awadh, and Darya Khan was left in charge of Bihar. In the battle of Kampat on the Tons, the army of Khurram suffered a signal defeat, and the prince escaped with his bare life to Rohtas.

It was at this place that his younger son Murad Baksh was born. Khurram remained at Rohtas for three days only, and leaving his wife Arjumand Banu Begam, to recoup her health after the delivery, started for Garhi or Teliyagarhi. Bihar was reconquered by the imperialists, and Khurram deserted, by Darya Khan, returned to Deccan. Ultimately, a truce was sought and Noorjehan in the name of Jehangir, demanded the surrender of Rohtas and Asir, as well as Dara and Aurangzeb as hostages.

SHAHJEHAN—THE MAGNIFICENT

On February 4, 1628 *Shahzada* Khurram, ascended the throne of Delhi, as Abul Muzaffar Shihabuddin Muhammad Saheb Qiran Sani * and his wife Arjumand Banu Begam became *Mumtazmahal*. The first Governor of Bihar, appointed by Shahjehan was Mirza Barkhurdar *alias Khan-i Alam*. He was the son of Abdur Rahman Duldav, who died in action in Shahabad, against Dalpat Singh Ujjainia. In order to avenge his father's death he tried to murder Dalpat, when he was released from confinement in Delhi, unsuccessfully. Akbar was so annoyed, that his imprisonment was ordered. He was released by Jehangir who appointed him *Qush begi* or the Imperial Falconer or the 'Superintendent of the Aviary'. He was made *Khan i Alam* in the fourth regnal year of Jehangir, and later led a mission to Iran. On Shahjehan's accession, he was made Commander of 6,000 horses and sent to succeed Mirza Rustam Safavi. He made Pratap Rudra Singh Ujjainia a *mansabdar* of 1,500 infantry and 1,000 horses. He was removed due to addiction to opium.

Abdullah Khan Bahadur-Firoz Jang, was appointed to succeed him, in 1632 A.D. It was during his proconsulship, that Raja Pratapa Rudra Singh of Bhojpur revolted. Due to lack of detailed

* B. P. Saxena—*History of Shahjehan*, page 63

information the causes of his revolt, immediately after his appointment as an Imperial *mansabdar* are not quite clear. Several possible causes point to the defection The first was the arrears of revenue, secondly enmity of the collaterals and the powerful *Kayastha* family of Bakhra Lastly, a great change in the home policy of the mughal empire had taken place. When Shahjehan ascended the throne, he departed from the tolerant principles of his grandfather and father and gave orders that, all the Hindu temples in course of construction should be destroyed This was in 1634 A D Pratapa Rudra was an orthodox Hindu, who had erected some lofty temples in Bhojpur He must have been extremely successful as a rebel, because, the Imperial government, ordered Abdullah Khan and Baqar Khan Najam Sani, governors of Bihar and Allahabad respectively, to proceed against him They were joined by Fidaī Khan, a feoffee of Gorakhpur and Mukhtar Khan of Monghyr Raja Pratapa Rudra was unable to oppose such vast resources But he proved himself a worthy scionof an illustrious family, and fought valiantly Bhojpur was severely attacked and the siege lasted for six months Heavy casualties were suffered by the Mughals in taking the fort of Tribhag The fort of Kallanpur was also occupied, after a siege lasting one month by Zabardast Khan and Sufi Ten other *garhs* were also successively occupied, when the Raja finally retired, to the recently built citadel, within the fort of Bhojpur to make a last stand Muzaffar and Faridul Khans, two sons of Zabardast Khan, approached the wall of the last fort, but, they were defeated by the Ujjainas On the other hand all efforts of the besieged to escape, by sallying out, were thwarted Pratapa suffered a crushing defeat, on a Monday, in a sanguinary contest, which lasted till the morning of Tuesday He along with his wife surrendered to the mercy of Firoz Jung Pratapa Rudra had not thought of the consequences. Abdullah Khan according to Peter Mundi, was a sadist Pratapa was executed There may be some truth in Stewart's version that the Subedar wanted to pardon the Raja, but, bewitched by the beauty of the Rani, changed his mind The Rani was converted to Islam, and married to the grandson of the old Governor

It was in Abdullah's time, that Ikhlas Khan was appointed Commandant of Rohtas, according to *Shahjehan-nama*, which is confirmed by a Persian inscription of *Chaichwan* mosque, which even now exists, between Akbarpur and Mandraghat, at the foot of Rohtas. It mentions that Nawab Ikhlas Khan was the *Killadar* of Rohtas, *Faujdar* of the territory extending from Makrain, parganas Siri and Katamba to Benares and Jagirdar of Khawand (Chaund-, Mangror, Tilothu, Akbarpur, Belonja, Nazibnagar and Japla These areas are now included in the districts of Shahabad, Gaya, Palamau and Benares The *daroga* of the fort was Mallik Wisal, whose family tomb was close to the hill The enclosure and the *baoli* were finished in 1638 A D During 1556-57, Mirzafar, a nephew of

a Sultan (Itmaddud-daula) of Iran, was appointed the Faujdar of Chainpur and Ikhlas Khan became the Governor of Bihar, under Shahjehan But, it was in the regime of Allah Vardi Khan, a noble man of alleged Seljuk extraction, that the fratricidal struggle between the sons of Shahjehan commenced

The war of succession

Prince Shuja, took the Governor of Bihar on his side, loaded him with honours, but, was not convinced either about his loyalty or his gratitude The feeling was reciprocal After the battle of Bahadurpur, on the 15th February, 1658 Allah Vardi Khan had to beat a hasty retreat to Patna, by the land route *via* Sasaram and Arwal After the battle of Samugarh, Shuja received the whole of Bihar in addition to Bengal and Orissa, and Dara asked his loyal officers at Allahabad, Benares, Chunar, Jaunpur and Rohtas to hand over their charges to Shuja According to Aqil Khan, Nurul was made the Deputy of Bihar by Shuja Shuja visited Rohtas, Benares, Jaunpur, and then proceeded to Kora near Allahabad The subsequent tragic history is too well known and need not detain us During the flight of Shuja, Raja Kokalat Shah of Bhojpur was appointed the *thanadar* of Lodh jungle, Rangamati and Garhi Kokalat Shah was the son of Hardat Shah, and grandson of Chhibar Shah, a younger son of Sangram Shah He had been recognised as the Raja of Bhojpur by the mughals, with his headquarters at Basodha and Jagdishpur, after the execution of Pratapa Rudra Singh

AURANGZEB

In 1663, Bahadur Khan was the Faujdar of Chainpur and Rohtas Shahuli Khan was succeeded by Hizabar Khan who was followed by Khwaja Nazir, on whose death Habu Muslim *alias* Nekanam Khan received the custodianship of Rohtas Since he died three or four months later, Wali Beg Gulabi, succeeded him On 1st September, 1666, Marhamat Khan was appointed Faujdar of Arrah in succession to Sadaat Khan In 1681 Rudra Singh who had succeeded Kokalat Shah was dismissed from his fief He was the son of Raja Amar Singh and grandson of famous Raja Narayanamal On the imposition of *Ziziya* by Aurangzeb, he had made common cause with Kubar Dhir or Kunwar Dhira Singh His patriotism was however, lukewarm He was ultimately *weaned* over to Mughal side; and aided and abetted in the final defeat of the "Robinhood" of Shahabad in the 17th century In the same year, Hamid Qureshi, son of Daud Khan Qureshi, Faujdar of Shahabad, was dismissed from office and was replaced by Sheikh Ibrahim, Faujdar of Sasaram On 25th February, 1702 A D. Abul Qadir was appointed to Rohtas in place of Mir Inayatullah At this time the fortress of Rohtas sometimes used to serve, as detention camp for many undesirables

Kuvar Dhir.

The most important event in the reign of Aurangzeb, as far as Shahabad is concerned, was the rebellion of Kunwar Dhira Singh Ujjainia, of Baranwan, referred to as "Kuvar Dhir" in Persian histories The most valuable source of our information is, *Akhabari-Darbara-i-Mualla* Dhira Singh was a member of the family of Santanu Singh, descended from Dalip Shahi, founder of Dalippur and step brother of Gajapati Singh His father, was Vikram Shahi, who had been allotted the *zamindari* of Baranwan in *pargana* Pero The revenue having fallen in arrears, Dhira Singh was taken to Delhi, as a hostage when he was a boy, and later on released. On his return, he collected troops, notwithstanding the remonstrances of his father, and earned the undying enmity of the Imperial Government by killing in action Zia-ud-din, the local *faujdar*, whose tomb even now exists at Pero That he was eminently successful, when the orthodoxy of Aurangzeb was shattering the fabric of the Mughal empire, established on the integrated loyalties of the Hindus and Muslims, is undeniable He is reported to have reduced many *zamindars* in Saran, Champaran, and Gaya, while in the west he reached up to Allahabad With the limited sources at his disposal for 20 long years he kept the Mughals at bay

Amongst the ousted *zamindars*, was Nand Shahi Jaithra of Bettiah, who persuaded the *Nazim* of Bihar to take action After a hotly contested fight at an unidentified place called Martand, Dhira Singh retired to Nagra, a village in the Balia district, sacking and laying waste everything From this place, he retired to Mau, now a station in the North-Eastern Railway, on the Banaras-Bhatni section He fought with the Raja of Majhauli, and built a strong fort at Barhaj in the Gorakhpur district In many respects, he shared the fate of Kunwar Singh Ultimately, during the governorship of Prince Azim-us-Shan, he seems to have been defeated by Shamsher Khan who captured the fort of Baranwan.

Aurangzeb put the 18 Mahals of the original Sarkar between two new units. Rohtas contained seven and the newly created Sarkar of Bhojpur contained eleven Mahals This was an important change in the Sarkar of Rohtas as constituted by Akbar.

Successors of Aurangzeb.

The death of Aurangzeb, however, let loose a civil war, which ultimately, led to the decline of the Imperial prestige Two of his sons, Azam Shah and Muazzam Shah, declared themselves as Emperors, simultaneously In the battle that followed, the younger was worsted and Muazzam Shah ascended the throne as Bahadur Shah—Shah Alam I. Trouble overtook the hapless Imperial family, immediately after the death of Bahadur Shah, and his elder son Muezzuddin, ascended the throne of Delhi, as Jahandar Shah, after

defeating Azim-us-Shan But Azim-us-Shan had left a son, in Bengal, known as Farruck-Siyar, who marched from Bengal to Patna, and ultimately to Allahabad, to secure the help of two Said brothers, to fight Jahandar Shah, in which he succeeded admirably and placed himself on the *takht-i-taus* It was when he was at Patna, attempting to secure the alliance, that an incident, relating to Rohtas, is noticed by Ghulam Hussain Khan, the Bihar historian. We are informed, that an officer, named Mohammad Raza arrived in Bihar and succeeded in taking possession of Rohtas, by a forged order of the Emperor It was necessary to reoccupy Rohtas At Patna there was a person named Dilachin Beg, a *Kalmuk*, who had killed Mohammad Raza and occupied the fort On his return to Patna he was suitably rewarded by the prince Farruck-Siyar's reign was shortlived, and the Sayyed brothers murdered him and placed on the throne successively their nominees Ultimately, Mohammad Shah ascended the throne of Delhi, and put an end to the ambitions of the Sayyed brothers

MUGHAL FAINEANTS

It was Mohammad Shah, who appointed Fakraddaulah as Governor of Bihar, in 1727 A D in succession to Nasarat Yar Khan But Fakraddaulah was an ill-educated, haughty and arrogant person He was soon replaced by the order of *Khan-i-Dauran*, and Bihar was attached to the dominions of Nawab Suja-ud-din of Bengal Independent existence of Bihar created by Sher Shah, and continued by the Imperial Mughals, had come to an end, and it had to wait till 1912, to become again self-governing province Nawab Suja-ud-din, appointed Alivardi Khan, as his 'Deputy' in Bihar

Very little information about Shahabad is available, when crowns had become cheap in Delhi and even when that Imperial City was sacked, looted and burnt by Nadir Shah, but, we have information, that one Udwant Singh, son of Sujan Singh Ujjainia had become very prominent He came into conflict with Nawab Fakhraddaulah, the last Mughal Governor of Bihar Assisted by Tribhuan Singh of Tekari, Pahalwan Singh of Nokha and Horil Singh of Mithila, Nawab's officers led a punitive expedition, against Udwant Singh; and captured the strongholds of Dawa and Jagdishpur, which were razed to the ground At first, Udwant Singh retreated and sought shelter, with Nawab Abdullah of Ghazipur, who was an old friend of his. In company of a body of horsemen from the Nawab, Udwant Singh returned to Jagdishpur, and captured and beheaded the officers of Fakhraddaulah. Then he presented himself before the Governor of Patna, and was pardoned In the meantime, Suja-ud-din died and was followed by Sarfaraz, who was defeated and killed by Alivardi Khan at the battle of Giriya With the formal approval of the puppet Emperor, Alivardi Khan became the virtual master of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa and appointed his nephew and son-in-law Zainnuddin Haibat-Jang, his Deputy in

Bihar Zainnuddin was a talented man and engaged himself in establishing the authority of the new government in Bihar with the help of few chosen and loyal officers, like Rai Chintaman Das, Hedait Ali Khan, the father of historian Ghulam Hussain, etc., while Alivardi Khan was busy in raiding Orissa Zainnuddin had to lead an expedition against the ever restless and refractory inhabitants of Bhojpur, because, Horil Singh of Dumraon and Udwant Singh of Jagdishpur did not prove themselves amenable to Zainnuddin's authority It was at this time, that Zainnuddin murdered a valiant *Pathan,* named Roshan Khan Tarhi, *Faujdar* of Shahabad, on the ground of his being in league with the Ujjainias Mustafa Khan, the Afghan, joined Udwant Singh, but, all this did not dishearten Zainnuddin, and after two sieges Mustafa Khan was killed near Jagdishpur and Haibat-Jung successfully stormed the fort of Jagdishpur This Udwant Singh was the grandfather of Babu Kunwar Singh

The Marhatha inroads left Shahabad comparatively untouched except the march of Peshwa Balaji Baji Rao, in 1743, on the invitation of the Emperor Mohammad Shah The exact point at which the Peshwa entered the Bihar territory is uncertain, but the fact that the historian Ghulam Hussain mentions him, in connection with Ahmad Khan, son of Daud Khan Qureshi, shows that he must have entered Bihar from Mirzapur side Ghauspur and the town of Daudnagar were sacked and burnt Balaji Baji Rao bypassed Patna and marched through Tikari, Gaya, Manpur, Bihar and reached Bhagalpur With the death of Alivardi Khan, on the 10th April, 1756, at the age of 80, the best period of late Mughal history in eastern India comes to an end Alivardi Khan was succeeded by his grandson, who lost the crown of Bengal and Bihar, to the British and their stooge Mirzafar What normally happens to the traitors, also happened to Mirzafar and the British set him aside for a short time in favour of Mir Qasim Before this, however, Prince Ali Ghauhar, who had been granted the viceroyalty of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa by his father passed with a large army in 1758 His activities were mainly confined in Patna district He raided Patna, but failed to achieve his object From Patna the Sahzada moved his camp to Durgawati, where he was joined by Pahalwan Singh already referred to Soon afterwards, he crossed the Karmanasa It was at this time that the victor of Plassey seems to have visited Shahabad against Pahalwan Singh but the chieftain was too wise to clash with the British and a compromise was effected

On accession to the *masnad* of Bengal, Mir Qasim's first endeavour was to establish his supremacy over the three provinces of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa and as Dr. N L Chatterji has pointed out, his activities in Shahabad are significant They were links of his comprehensive policy of subjugating the distracted province of Bihar and establishing his authority over the hostile and rebellious

border and barons of the frontier district between his territory and that of Wazir of Awadh. They had taken full advantage of the disintegration of the Mughal empire, to benefit themselves by exploiting the non-existence of any central authority and struggle for power after the death of Alivardi. The historians, unfortunately, have not done justice to the Bhojpuriah *zamindars*. The verdict has been always onesided. They have been condemned for making things difficult for the usurpers, regicides and quislings of the East India Company. It has never been pointed out that neither Murshid Quli II, Sujauddaulah, Sarfaraz or Alivardi Khan, were the *de jure* sovereigns of eastern India. They were the usurpers, who robbed the Mughal empire of its unity, of its strength and brought economic ruin over the whole countryside. It was, probably, not unlawful, to revolt against those provincial governors, who themselves were rebels against their natural sovereign. Non-payment of revenue was not merely the concern of Bhojpur *zamindars* but also that of the independent provincial governors like *Nizam-ul-Mulk* or Safadar Jang, etc. Otherwise why should the 'Emperor of India' go on selling their palace's furniture, if they had not been robbed of the tributes from the provinces. The real fact was that Mir Qasim wanted to avenge himself on the support of Ram Narain, one of the greatest of Indian traitors, in the 18th century.

Mir Qasim left Patna in November, 1761. Pahalwan Singh and others were impressed and convinced that all the oppositions would be futile. And, they fled to the territory of Wazir of Awadh. Mir Qasim remained sometime in Sasaram, visited Rohtasgarh and put Shamal, the Dewan of Rohtasgarh in chains, imprisoned the commandant of the garrison and left the loyal officers and troops in various parts of the district. One officer was placed in command of Sasaram and Chainpur, another at Bhojpur with a brigade of horse and foot, while Sombre (*s.c* Reinhardt) the German adventurer popularly known as Semru, was placed in charge of Buxar with a couple of regiments of sepoys and some guns.

After the fateful battle of Udhuanala and the capture of Patna in 1763, Mir Qasim retreated to Tilothu, where, he was joined by his ladies, who brought with them, the treasures he had left at Rohtasgarh and he fled to the Wazir of Awadh *via* Sasaram. On his return in 1764, Shahabad was first to suffer since the invading army burnt and plundered to a distance of 10 or 12 miles in every direction. After his defeat at Patna, Sujauddaulah fell back to Buxar, where he strongly entrenched himself, and it was here in October 1764, that Major Munro laid the foundations of a momentous change and made the British the masters of Eastern India. During Chait Singh's rebellion, in 1781, Shahabad was dragged into it, because, Chait Singh's domain included a large tract in Shahabad, since his father, the hero of *Balwanatanama*, seized the north-western portion of the district, in order to consolidate his position, and established strategic

bases, on the south of the Ganga. With this object in view, the large *pargana* of Mangror and the fort of Seringah, four miles south of Chaunsa, were annexed after expelling the Ujjainia chief. The English garrison was practically confined to the walls of Buxar fort which is now the Subdivisional Officer's residence When Chait Singh rose in revolt there was actually little fighting in Shahabad proper Major Crawford marched from Sherghati to Akbarpur, where, he met a road, and dragged his gun up the Kaimur plateau He was joined by Vikramajit Singh, Raja of Bhojpur and Bhupnarain of Jagdishpur The allied army succeeded in reaching Bijayagarh in Mirzapur district The battle of Buxar proclaimed the defeat of the great power of Oudh and the submission of Shah Alam II, the titular Mughal Emperor Thence forward, till 1857 Shahabad had an uneventful history

SHAHABAD IN 1857.

Mutiny in Shahabad has a special character and significance, due to its leaders Babu Kunwar Singh and Babu Amar Singh That Shahabad, as the foregoing pages have shown, have always specialised in revolts, against the temporal and secular authorities in India, since Mauryan times, is undeniable Babus Kunwar Singh and Amar Singh belonged to the family of Hararaj, Gajapati Singh, Durlabhadeva Narayan Mall, Pratapa Rudra, Kunwar Dhira Singh and Udwant Singh The spirit of revolt and a fierce love for independence was in the very marrow of their bones, veins and blood. In that respect, nobody can deny, that it was the first attempt on the part of Indians to throw off an alien yoke, by taking advantage of the weaknesses in our national character, and of the rulers, on whom the responsibility of governing the country fell Nevertheless, it has got to be admitted, that from the very beginning both the leaders had failed to rouse the masses for action At the same time, there was no understanding or even attempt at collaborating with the leaders of the first freedom struggle, like Nana Saheb, Rani Lakshmi Bai of Jhansi and the blind Emperor of Delhi No efforts seem to have been made, to ally themselves with the forces which were fighting further north Convincing evidence has not been adduced about a consolidated policy and military action with the people at Banaras, Kanpur and Delhi. Nonetheless, we cannot but admire, the selfless devotion, which led them to sacrifice their all It is unfortunate that a school of modern historians should try to forget what Kunwar Singh really was and to give him a borrowed glamour by connecting him up with others.

The regiments which had revolted at Dinapore made straight for Shahabad and was joined by Kunwar Singh and his levies Arrah was destined to be the scene of a grim struggle put forth by

few determined men Whatever might have been their faults, in not realising their responsibilities no historian would be ever able to deny to the memory of those Englishmen, who shut themselves up in the Arrah house and defended it successfully against heavy odds Whatever might be our feelings, and the resultant reaction which it had on the fate of India's first freedom movement, it cannot be denied, that these people had fought successfully for their own people their own country and won their cause ultimately. The relieving party under Dunbar failed, because of lack of insight and leadership in the Commanding Officer, and on the 3rd August, the besieged officers were released by Major Vincent Eyre The troops of the East India Company decided then to pursue Babu Kunwar Singh and his followers to Jagdishpur, where, so many generations of Ujjainia Rajputs had made their last stand In spite of the best efforts of the defenders Jagdishpur was given up to loot, arson, and plunder The principal buildings were blown up Babu Kunwar Singh, retreated towards Sasaram and ultimately moved towards Uttar Pradesh In April, 1858, having been defeated at Azamgarh, he returned to Shahabad and while recrossing the river to enter Shahabad was mortally wounded While the British forces sent from Arrah suffered a disaster like Dunbar, in the jungles of Bhojpur and Jagdishpur, Kunwar Singh breathed his last probably on the 26th April, 1858

Tayler's successor, Samuell wrote on September 25, 1858, "There is no doubt that Kunwar Singh had determined on rebellion for sometime before the actual outbreak took place". In his 75th year, he gathered round him a band of faithful fighters of about ten thousand men and inspired them of tremendous zeal and bravery The Raja of Dumraon was with him It is significant to note that no European was killed at Arrah by the party of Kunwar Singh and even those who fell in his hand were fairly treated. Arrah passed under the control of Kunwar Singh who set up his own machinery of administration Amar Singh and his followers maintained their control in Arrah They had established a parallel Government. After the retreat of Nana Saheb in Nepal Amar Singh went to the *terai* region to assume leadership of Nana's troops and death ultimately saved Nana from trial and prosecution at the hands of the imperialist masters His lieutenants, Amar Singh and others, though hopeless of ultimate success and thereby rendered more desperate, aided by their position in dense jungles, as well as by tropical climate, held their ground for a long time Marauding bands scoured the countryside, and the Company's establishment at Arrah had to be removed to Buxar Sasaram due to disloyalty to the Company was attacked and plundered and the remnants of the defeated forces found shelter in the immortal Rohtas valley and jungles of Bhojpur. Just as in the 13th century, the Rajputs and Kharwar lords had successfully defied the Muslims, so in the jungles of Bhojpur and Jagdishpur the sepoys and their leaders found a safe

refuge, maintained their position and obtained supplies. On hearing the news of the defeat of the Arrah force near Jagdishpur, General Sir Edward Lugard, the British General Officer Commanding at Azamgarh, hastened to Shahabad, to subdue the resistance parties, but, the thick jungles of the Karusha-desa stood in his way. The sepoys could easily tread their way through this jungle, while it offered an insurmountable obstacle to the unwieldy British troops and their heavy artillery. Therefore, the British historian mournfully tells us that, soldiers working like 'coolies' had to cut through the tangled mass. In fact, the policy that Daud Khan Qureshi had followed in his Palamau campaign, had to be repeated by the British. Often the working parties brought the rebels in action but they successfully withdrew in the density of the jungles. By the middle of June the British General was exhausted, by the hardship, fatigue and worries which he had undergone in fighting these 'niggers' in the jungle of Shahabad, and he resigned his command and returned to England. All through the sweltering summer months, the struggle continued. Douglas, who had succeeded Lugard, had 7,000 trained British and Sikh regiments under him, but, all that he could do was to keep them under some check, where monsoon with its heavy downpour stopped all activities on the part of the British. Yet, the weary soldiers of the Company received no rest, for the Grand Trunk Road built by Sher Shah, passed through portions of the jungle and had to be guarded. Notwithstanding the inclements of weather and adverse fighting conditions, punitive expeditions had to be despatched, to maintain communications with Calcutta. Meanwhile, Babu Amar Singh and his followers continued their depredations in portions of Shahabad. Following the lesson taught by their ancestors in fighting the Turks, they organised themselves into small bands, roamed the countryside and lived on it, inflicting salutary lessons on all who were short-sighted enough not to support the freedom struggle. The quislings and the fifth column of the 19th century had to be dealt with. One party raided Gaya, occupied the jail, released the prisoners, while another swept on to Arrah and burnt a number of bungalows. Circulars were issued placing a prize on the head of English officials. With the end of monsoon Douglas started his campaign. Aided by Major Sir Henry Havelock he started wiping out the rebels, who then retired to the Kaimur hills. The hills were covered with impenetrable jungles and huge boulders which greatly impeded their progress. But by that time the sepoys had become demoralised and dispirited. The leaders had to fly, while the masses of the revolting troops skulked off by two or three, returning to their villages or their relatives, to be mercilessly hunted down by the British and their stooges.

A history of Shahabad district after the insurrection of 1857, is more or less, on the same pattern as in the other parts of the country. The suppression of the movement had its aftermath. It was fully realised that the suppression was done more by military measures and

that it had to be followed up by a policy of reconciliation of the people and consolidation of the British administration. It is true that there were a number of loyalists within the district and some of them and particularly the Shah Saheb of Sasaram who earned for the town of Sasaram the title of "Sasaram-Nasirul Hukkam"* were made the rallying points for the process of reconciliation of the people and consolidation of the administration These loyalists were fully rewarded by the British administration and Kabiruddin Ahmad, the Shah Saheb was given a lot of presents to make an example to the families of the insurrectionists. A few loyalists whether they were zamindars or planters or big cultivators were given various concessions and leases so that they could be completely won over.

One of the first results of the suppression of the insurrection was a realisation that the countryside must be opened up with better arteries of communications so that the administration could move quickly at times of stress With this view the jungles were cut and a large number of roads were laid Vast jungles from Behea to Jagdishpur were cut down. The railways were extended It was also realised that there must be more of administrators in the subdivisions and the outskirts. The Police organisations and the Magisterial staff were strengthened. The number of thanas was increased.

The British administrators also realised that there must be a spread of more education and with that view schools were opened at different places of the district. The big *zamindars* were encouraged to sponsor schools and other institutions. With the spread of English education and the want of other type of employment facilities, the educated people naturally turned more to Government services and in this way the administration came to exercise more hold on the educated classes Various coveted jobs were thrown open to the educated classes, and getting the posts in gazetted services almost became the aim of every graduate.

The Calcutta University continued to be the only University for Bihar till the Patna University was opened in the twenties of this century. The Calcutta University and the Directorate of Education were very keen to impart a liberal type of education based more on the western model and emphasising the importance of English language, arts and sciences The teaching of science was encouraged and higher education was made possible in the Medical and Engineering Colleges. Oriental education through the old system came to have a low premium and this was due to the fact the people came to realise that unless they go through the schools and colleges where education was imparted through English at the higher stages, there could be no chance for entering into any Government jobs. Higher jobs in the private sectors were also earmarked for college graduates.

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* "*Inside Bihar*" by P. C. Roy Choudhury (Booklands, Calcutta, 1962).

The decades that followed the suppression of the 1857 insurrection saw a gradual erosion of the old moorings of the society. The type of education through English and the spread of the knowledge of sciences had an insidious effect on the various concepts that stood as the moorings of the old society. The doors of the West were thrown open by the knowledge of English and the West started influencing India. Ideas like social equality, emancipation of women, education of ladies, love for democracy, etc., came to play on the oriental mind. The English educated youths drank deep at history, politics, philosophy and sciences and slowly came to imbibe a love for ideas of democracy and social freedom. The evils of caste system, the rigours imposed on the women and particularly the widows, the seemingly unjust restrictions on going abroad, food, drink, dress, etc., became an eye-sore to them. A few youngmen made bold to strike against them and the social ostracism imposed on them made the English-educated youths all the more restive. Some of the Kayastha boys (and one of them was the late Sachchidananda Sinha) was a pioneer of leading a silent but effective war against the rigidities of a caste and tradition-ridden Hindu society in Shahabad district. The student movement was another potent factor.

Bihar was a part of Bengal and naturally the movement of *Swadeshi* in the first decade of the 20th century had a tremendous effect on Bihar and Shahabad district was no exception. The best students of Bihar normally used to go to Calcutta for higher studies before the Patna University was started. Some of those best boys who had actively participated in the agitation in Calcutta started the Students' movement in Bihar. Rajendra Prasad along with a few others was a pioneer for this. Srikrishna Sinha, Anugraha Narayan Sinha, the two men who had shaped Bihar after Independence was won had been active participants of the Students' Movement. The journalists of Calcutta including some Bihari journalists had a great influence on Bihar. "*Bihar Bandhu*", a fearless Hindi paper of Calcutta, was a bold exponent of ideas of nationalism in the *Swadeshi* days. The influence of the nationalists, poets and philosophers of Bengal had, to some extent, helped the growth of ideas of democracy in Bihar. Once the start was there, Bihar youths took up the work on their shoulders and prepared Bihar for the great Non-Co-operation Movement. The great social progress that had come in due to Western education had created in Bihar like the other parts of India a thirst for political freedom. A series of administrative reforms had been sponsored by the British administrators to satisfy the growing aspirations like the creation of the District Boards, institution of Honorary Magistrates, conferring titles and decorations twice a year (New Year's Day and the Emperor's Birth Day), holding of *Darbars*, liberalisation of the franchise for the Provincial and Imperial Legislatures, patronage of earmarked loyalists in the districts, etc., etc. Higher jobs were thrown open to the educated youngmen and some were selected even to be associated with the highest Judiciary and

Executive. Quite a number of men of Shahabad district had earned high distinctions in various walks of life through their merits. But all this did not satisfy the thirst for a political emancipation. The British administration was based on the principle of "Divide and Rule" and on the continuation of sharply distinguished social gradations. It has to be remembered that this district had seen some of the worst communal disturbances in India. All this had happened in spite of thousands of Muslims and Hindus living happily at other villages of the district and the province. The educative influence of the Brahmo Samaj, Arya Samaj, the Theosophical Society, the Ramkrishna Mission and the Christian Missions, etc., had helped the spread of liberal ideas towards life and society. The principles of 'Divide and Rule", the distinction between the Zamindar and Kisan, the educated and the illiterate, the evils of the backwardness of the bulk of the people and the almost total blackout so far as female education was concerned were thought to be so many halters round the neck. The restlessness of the people and their dissatisfaction with the administration and their own kith and kin were at the background which made the next political outburst possible.

A particular mention has to be made regarding the contribution of the educated middle classes in the formative decades prior to the launching of Non-Co-operation Movement. It has to be underlined that the leadership came from the middle classes. The *zamindars*, the lawyers, the doctors, the teachers, etc., formed the main components of the middle classes. The Bar in the Shahabad district, as elsewhere did offer a certain degree of leadership. Many of the *zamindars* who were liberal patrons of the educational institution and culture helped the nationalist movements by giving liberal money contribution. It remains a fact that some of the big *zamindars* of this district had secretly helped the nationalist movement while openly allying themselves with the British administration. The big and small cultivators and the *Kisans* along with the labourers formed the base of the social pyramid. It is a historic truth that the base consisting of the millions which really paid for the running of the administration was left rather uncared for by the administrators. Most of the laws that were passed for the improvement of the *raiyats* were rather belated measures and hence were the results of a certain amount of agitation. There was a big gap between the *zamindars* and the *raiyats* and not much was done by the administrators to bridge this gap. The spread of education had brought in an incidence of unemployment in the educated middle class families. But this spread of education had created more havoc in the families of the village *raiyats* and the labourers. In an educated middle class family one or two unemployed educated men did not matter much as they could be easily absorbed in various affairs of the family and particularly in looking after the cultivation of the lands. But when a farmer stakes a lot and deprives himself of various necessities to get his son educated and the son does not get a suitable employment and

at the top of it, will not take to farming thinking it to be an insult to his education, the distress is much more acute. It is a fact that the type of Western education that was evolved had encouraged a certain amount of reaction on the administration. There was more of the teaching of arts and less of science and still less of technical subjects whereby one could easily earn his livelihood. The result was the creation of a disconsolate army of unemployed, semi-educated or educated youngmen who were all clamouring for white-collared jobs. In case of the grade of higher education, there was no screening of students entering the portals of the university and the bulk of students that got into the university was neither mentally developed nor temperamentally suited for the university education. The type of education as imparted by the university as mentioned before added to the problem Acute mental unrest due to a certain amount of dissatisfaction with the existing conditions can always be a potent factor for bringing in an upheaval Shahabad which had a tradition of love for freedom was in a receptive mood when came Gandhiji on the scene of India.

Gandhiji's first struggle in India was on the soil of Champaran district He was invited to look into the oppressions of the European Indigo Planters He had just come back to India from South Africa and was a stranger to Bihar He came, he saw and he literally conquered the hearts of the *Kisans* of North Bihar by fighting against the European Planters * It has to be mentioned that before Gandhiji's visit to Champaran in 1917, there was another agrarian outburst in connection with the oppressions of the Indigo Planters in Champaran district in the first decade of the 20th century and this movement was entirely led by the *Kisans* themselves. The Calcutta Press particularly the *Amrita Bazar Patrika, Bengali, Hindu Patriot*, and the *Pratap* of Allahabad gave unstinted support to the popular movement Repressive forces were let loose and the movement was crushed through the police and the magistracy. But that event followed by Gandhiji's singular victory in Champaran in 1917 had its repercussions throughout Bihar and Shahabad district was no exception. Gandhiji had a large number of followers from Bihar and some of them were Rajendra Prasad, Mazrul Haque, Ram Navami Prasad, Anugrah Narayan Sinha, Dharni Dhar, Braj Kishore Prasad and others Some of them in later life rose to great prominence. A detailed study of Gandhiji's work in Champaran district in this connection will be found in the Re written *District Gazetteer of Champaran* Although Shahabad district had followed more or less a moderate policy in politics and was very much *zamindar*-ridden, the current events did have some impact. In this connection, it may be mentioned that Guru Prosanna Sen, an eminent Advocate of Patna, was the first man from Bihar to attend

* '*Gandhiji's First Struggle in India*' by P C. Roy Choudhury (Navajivan Publishing House, Ahmedabad, Second Edition, 1968).

the Indian National Congress and two of the prominent Kulaharia *zamindars* were the next Journalism both in Bihar and Bengal had also prepared the ground for the receptivity towards the Non-Co-operation Movement to a great extent It was in this district that the *Khilafat* Movement based on Hindu-Muslim unity had a tremendous success Gandhiji had visited Sasaram four times on his great mission of forging ahead the *Khilafat* Movement. Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan of the North West Frontier had also visited Sasaram in this connection

The next wave of nationalism came in the wake of Non-Co-operation Movement in 1921 The Non-Co-operation Movement had a wide impact in the district As a result of the meeting held at Piru, a *Panchayat* was established to try cases (both civil and criminal) and similar *Panchayats* were established in different parts of the districts A national school was started at Koath and a *Swaraj Sabha* was started at Dangaon Messrs Shiva Pujan Sahaya, Suraj Prasad Tewari, Bindhavasini Prasad, Ramdeo Tewari and others joined the Arrah national school after giving up their lucrative professions Anti-liquor Movement was started at Dumraon and gradually gained momentum in the district. On February 17, 1921, Shri Rajendra Prasad addressed a meeting at Arrah where Jagat Narain Lal and Arjun Sahay Varma (ex Army Doctor) were also present They also addressed the gathering and called upon the people to join the Movement launched by the Indian National Congress Similar meetings were organised at different places in the district and were addressed by Rajendra Prasad, Swami Sahajanand, Saraswati, Bindhavasini Prasad, Ganga Prasad, Jaya Prakash Lal, Mahfuz Alam and others The Government got alarmed at the rapidity of the national movement National Schools at Ganghat and Buxar were becoming more and more popular. Laxmi Narayan Mishra, Shah Baheruddin and Neazuddin were touring the district and propagating the ideals of Non-Co-operation Village *Panchayats* and *Seva Samities* were started in a number of villages and *muthiya* was collected to run these organisations on sound lines Mahatma Gandhi also visited Buxar, Sasaram, Dumraon, Koath, Bikramganj, and other places in the district.

Between 1920 and 1930, there was a good deal of Congress activity in Shahabad where it was very popular since its inception The nationalist background of the district was responsible for the rapid growth of the Indian National Congress Subdivisional Congress Committee and District Congress Committee were formed Purushottam Lal Agrawal was one of the founder secretaries of the movement. The Aryasamajists were also taking active part in the Congress and the contemporary political movement. Bhawani Dayal Sanyasi advocated the cause of Civil Disobedience Movement. At that time Pandit Moti Lal Nehru used to visit Arrah in connection with a protracted civil suit and in his spare time he used to inspire

the local Congress leaders In course of time Bhawani Dayal Sanyasi was elected President of the District Congress Committee He addressed several meetings in the district and was also convicted by the British Government At a number of places in this district attempt was made to stop the payment of Choukidari and land revenue. Bindhyachal Prasad was arrested in 1930 Throughout the district, national flags were hoisted on the Local Board and District Board buildings and Government took a very serious view of it and ultimately the national flags over those buildings were removed by the Government When insistence on *khadi* was made, the people of the district popularised *Charkha* and *Takli* in which competitions were organised throughout the district and all walks of people enthusiastically participated Boycott of foreign clothes formed the basis of a district-wide agitation

In 1931 Rajendra Prasad visited Arrah and his visit was followed by increased activity in regard to the picketting of foreign clothes and also for the formation of the Panchayats On August 30, 1931, he opened a *khadi* exhibition at Arrah and later on addressed meetings at Buxar Jagdishpur, Dumraon, Burhampur and other places That was followed by another visit of a team consisting of Rajendra Prasad, Baldeo Sahay, Shrikrishna Sinha On that occasion the national flag was hoisted In December, 1931, Shrikrishna Sinha delivered an inspiring speech containing a reference to Kunwar Singh and he was served with a notice under section 144 not to deliver any more speech in the district The *Searchlight* commented "it is a declaration of war by the Government against legitimate national activity" On the basis of Agrarian Enquiry Committee Report, Rajendra Prasad wrote to the Chief Secretary on the canal rates in Shahabad and requested for the early reduction of canal rates Signatures were later on collected *Abdul Qaiyum Ansari, Kashinath, Dudhnath Pandey (retired* D S P) and others organised meetings and agitated for the reductions in canal rates A *hartal* was organised at Dehri at the news of Mahatma Gandhi's arrest The Kisan Sabha later on took up the issue of the reduction in canal rates Bihar had become the most important centre of Kisan Sabha under Swami Sahajanand Saraswati by then Numerous meetings were held in different parts of the district and the agrarian trouble was increasing The situation came under control after the establishment of the First Congress Ministry in 1937

The sequence of events and the general pattern of various phases of the fight for freedom in Shahabad district were on the same lines as in the other districts of Bihar As in some other *District Gazetteers* they have been described at some length we need not repeat them here. Throughout the decade from 1930 onwards there were unrest and agitational activities at various fronts. The Salt Satyagrah Movement in 1930, the Forward Block activities in

1941, the Students' Movement in 1941-42 the Labour Problems in the Dalmianagar area, the Kisan Sabha activities, are some of the features that predominated, the local history of the district in this decade.*

The 1942 Movement was very chequered in this district as in some other districts. Fuller details are not being repeated as they are available elsewhere.† As in the other districts here also several public institutions were damaged or burnt, railway lines were tampered with and a general sense of lawlessness prevailed for some time. Some of the local leaders went underground while a number of them were tried and convicted. Students went completely out of hands although at that time the number was much smaller there being no colleges.

The outbreak of the Second World War sounded the death-knell of the newly-formed Congress Ministry in the State. The second World War broke out in 1939. The Indian National Congress was opposed to this imperialist war and it had its impact on the country as a whole. Anti-war demonstrations were organised all over the district and that was followed by the Individual Satyagraha in 1940-41. On November 8, 1941, the District Depressed Class Conference War was held. Shri Prithvi Singh Azad presided over the Conference and Shri Anugrah Narain Sinha inaugurated it. Between 1930 and 1940, Congress Socialist Party, Communist Party, Forward Bloc and other small parties were organised and founded in the district. During August Revolution of 1942, Arrah played a prominent part and kept up the high tradition of the district. The American and the British Forces committed unprecedented activities in the district. Shri Jagjiwan Ram, Sardar Harihar Singh, Ramanand Tewari, Ambica Sharan Singh and a host of other persons led the district during these difficult days. The people of Arrah, in certain villages, had practically declared independence. The national movement in the district has always been inspired by the memories of Kunwar Singh and Amar Singh and in 1942 they proved worthy of the same. Villages were taxed and the people were harassed beyond imagination and these trials and tribulations continued till 1947 when on August 15, the country attained independence.

* For details see K. K. Datta—*History of the Freedom Movement in Bihar*, Vol. II 1957 pages 65, 105, 106, 107, 408, 409 and 414.

† K. K. Datta—*History of the Freedom Movement in Bihar*, Vol. III, 1958, pages 95—101

CHAPTER III.

PEOPLE.

POPULATION.

The population of the district in the different census years from 1872 is as follows:—

Year.	Total population.	Male	Female.	Variation.
1	2	3	4	5
1872	17,10,471	8,28,623	8 81,848	
1881 ..	19,49,900	9,43,083	10,06,817	+2,39,429
1891 .	20,60,570	9,89,596	10,70,983	+1,10,670
1901 .. .	19,59,896	9,35,208	10.24,688	--1,00,896
1911 .	18,62,998	9,03,659	9,59,339	—96,898
1921 ..	18,14,229	8,94,227	9,20.002	—48,769
1931 .	19,93,489	9,99,099	9,94,390	+1,79,260
1941 .	23,28,581	11,75,707	11,52,874	+3,35,092
1951 .	26,88,440	13,58,443	13,29,997	+3,59,859
1961	32.18,017	16,16,732	16,01,285	+5,29,577

There are four subdivisions in Shahabad district, namely, Sadar, Buxar, Sasaram and Bhabhua. The total population of the four subdivisions in the last two census years have been as follows.—

Subdivision	1951			1961		
	Total population	Male	Female	Total population.	Male.	Female
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Sadar	8,85,270	4,41,077	4,44.193	10,31,645	5 08,699	5,22,946
Buxar ..	5,36,754	2,70,519	2,66,235	6,35.988	3,18,965	3.17,023
Sasaram ..	8,26,278	4,22,547	4,03,731	10,18,636	5,19,920	4,98,716
Bhabhua	4,40,138	2.24,300	2,15,838	5 31,748	2,69.148	2.62,600

Along with the variation of the population the density of population per square mile has also varied from time to time. The

density of 528 persons per square mile in 1941 Census went up to 610 persons per square mile in 1951 Census The density according to 1961 Census is 730 persons per square mile. The density will be better appreciated with the background of the density of the State of Bihar The density for the State in 1941 Census was 521 as against 575 persons per square mile in 1951 and 691 persons in 1961

The rate of increase of the population is naturally varied In 1941 Census the increase was 16 8 per cent over 1931 figures. In 1951 Census the increase was 15 5 per cent while in 1961 Census the increase is 19 70 per cent. The rate of increase in Shahabad district during the last decade was 15 5 per cent among the districts in Bihar In 1951 Census the highest increase was recorded in Sasaram subdivision (19 7 per cent) while Buxar recorded (17 2 per cent) The increase in Bhabhua subdivision was not spectacular, but the population of the Mohania Revenue Thana increased by 19 1 per cent Among all the revenue thanas of the district, the highest increase in 1951 Census was recorded 29 2 per cent at Dehri followed by 26 2 per cent at Buxar.

In this connection the observations in the last *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) may be quoted 'The density varies considerably in different parts, it is greatest in the rich and highly cultivated tracts to the north, where the people are prosperous and well-to-do, but decreases towards the south, where a large area is covered by the Kaimur hills, which afford but scanty space for cultivation and support a spare population thinly scattered over the plateau. These factors result in a marked variation between the northern and southern subdivisions, as those of Sasaram and Bhabhua support less than half of the number of persons to the square mile which the more fertile areas in the headquarters and Buxar subdivisions maintain. The pressure of the population on the land is greatest in the Arrah thana, where there are 782 persons to the square mile, and the minimum is reached in the thinly populated tract comprised in the Bhabhua thana, which with 182 persons to the square mile is more sparsely inhabited than any tract in South Bihar"*

The 1951 Census figures indicated that the above position has changed to some extent in the southern subdivisions specially in the Mohania Revenue Thana due to new irrigation schemes taken up under the Bhabhua-Mohania Community Development Programme The Sasaram and Bhabhua Revenue Thanas which consist mainly of a number of hill tracts of the Kaimur plateau were found to be still sparsely populated. The plains show two different patterns of population distribution. The north-eastern portion, where the soil is generally more fertile and irrigation facilities are more available, has an average density of 909 persons per square mile. In this tract excepting Bikramganj no other revenue thana was found to have a

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad*, 1924, pages 39-40.

density of less than 870 persons per square mile The density of Bikramganj Revenue Thana was below 800 persons per square mile. The average density of the south-western portion consisting of Revenue Thanas Karaghar, Buxar and Mohania with poorer soil is 630 persons per square mile. No revenue thana in this area reaches a density of 700 persons per square mile while Karaghar has only 550 persons.*

The detailed 1961 Census figures are not yet available But the trends show that the pattern in 1951 Census continues, more or less, as the same in the decade 1951–61 The impact of propaganda for birth control appears to be practically nil for this decade On the other hand the Community Development Projects, the Package Programme for agricultural extension and various other developmental projects have brought in more population

The population figures from 1872 to 1961 indicate the trends that require some discussion There was an increase of population by 14 per cent in 1881 over 1872 figures The increase in the decade 1881–90 was only 5 7 per cent on the 1881 total Thereafter the population declined at every census till 1921, which year completely changed the trend and a rapid acceleration of population was registered at every census thereafter In spite of the rise recorded in the decade 1881–90 the population at the 1921 Census was less than the figure in 1881 The annual average rate of decrease in between works out to 0 17 per cent per year After 1921 the population has been increasing at the rate of 1 6 per cent per year The low incidence of public health and economic condition affected the growth of population before 1921 Persistent fevers brought about a heavy mortality in the period between 1879 and 1886 Thereafter also it persisted but the rate of mortality was lower In 1896-97 there was a famine in the southern parts of the district Plague appeared in 1900 and continued to take a heavy toll of lives To this were added a serious outbreak of plague in 1912 and cholera epidemic in 1915 Both plague and cholera reappeared in 1917. The great influenza epidemics of 1918 and 1919 were responsible for a large number of deaths. The decrease in the population between 1881 and 1921 would have been steeper but for a large increase in immigration caused by the opening of the Sone Canals and also the extension of cultivation in the eighties and development of the lime industry in the decade 1911–20 It may be mentioned that there were several years of scarcity such as 1907, 1909, 1925, 1928, 1950, etc, which will be discussed later Scarcity does affect population Floods in Sone river particularly of 1923 had also brought in scarcity.†

The old Gazetteer (1924) gives the following account of the causes of the decline of population in 1921 Census, which has been quoted therein from the Census (1921) Report by Mr P C.

* *District Census Hand-Book of Shahabad*, 1954, page iii

† *District Census Hand-Book of Shahabad*, 1954, pages iii-iv.

Tallents. "The loss is greatest in the Buxar subdivision where it amounts to 8.05 per cent. The two thanas in this subdivision, Buxar and Dumraon, are those in which plague has been most destructive in the last ten years. Buxar also suffered from a virulent outbreak of cholera in 1918 and Dumraon was similarly afflicted in 1917 and 1918. The loss in the adjacent Sadr subdivision is lighter than in any other. Shahpur thana which showed a loss of 11.38 per cent at the last census again shows a loss of 5.06 per cent, the other two thanas show a slight gain. In the case of Arrah this may be ascribed to the decreasing severity of plague and to recovery from the heavy mortality caused by this disease in previous years, in Piro plague has never been so severe as in the neighbouring thanas, the loss was highest here at the last census, and on the present occasion the gain is greatest (1.79 per cent). In the Sasaram subdivision the loss is general except in Dehri thana, where the increase of 4.19 per cent is due to the development of the lime industry and the resulting concentration of labour which, as its occupation was independent of the rainfall, had no cause to emigrate in years of short crops. Karghar thana where the loss is heaviest suffered acutely from cholera in 1918. In the Bhabhua subdivision the loss of 2.96 per cent is fairly equally shared by both thanas, plague has never assumed formidable dimensions in this subdivision, but there was cholera in 1919 and the scarcity and distress led to emigration to the tea gardens. Here as elsewhere in South Bihar, there was a general decrease of migration at census time".*

The rate of increase of the population in this district as in some other districts of Bihar is quite alarming although it has not reached the phenomenal rate of increase in Purnea and Saharsa districts. The rate of increase in 1961 Census over 1951 population in Shahabad district is 19.70 per cent as against 31.75 per cent in Saharsa and 37.16 per cent in Purnea districts. The Census of 1961 *has given a large addition of 5,29,577 person. It is all the more alarming as if the years 1957—59 be taken as the norm, it shows a fecundity in the population which has to be controlled.*

Coming to more details, in 1957, 30,057 males and 23,592 females were born while 16,671 males and 15,620 females had died. In 1958, 24,546 males and 21,693 females were born while the deaths were 13,437 for males and 12,962 for females. There has been a population explosion in 1959 when 35,203 males and 31,290 females were born while death claimed 15,095 males and 13,851 females. The death-rates were 10.97 per mille for 1957, 8.84 per mille for 1958 and 9.55 per mille in 1959. The birth-rates were 18.44 per mille for 1957, 15.48 per mille for 1958 and 21.95 per mille for 1959. The condensed Annual Vital Statistics Report for the years 1957—59, published by the Directorate of Statistics, Bihar,

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad*, 1921, pages 38-39

Patna (1962), p 6, shows that the excess of births over deaths per mille over population in 1957 was 7.46, 6 64 in 1958 and 12.39 in 1959 respectively.

With the wider use of antibiotics and introduction of sanitary measures the incidence of death which is now at about 8 to 10 per cent per mille per year is bound to go down. But if the mortality goes down and the birth-rate shoots up, the position becomes rather alarming as the fecundity remains at the same incidence unless controlled Illness and starvation are being fought against and at this dangerous rate of increase of population there is no doubt that the economic incidence cannot be upgraded Without a certain amount of vigorous birth control, all the efforts for increased produce of lands or industrialisation will not be able to stop the evils of the pure agricultural society overtaking the district and the country at large. The very attitude towards marriage that a girl is born to be married has naturally made the problem all the more complex. There has to be a radical change of our social values. The demographic density of the district which is still based on agricultural economy and has to remain as such for decades is absolutely out of proportion to the district's technical capacity to control crop fluctuations and their consequences as well as the epidemic diseases Carlo Cipolla in his book "The Economic History of World Population" (1962) has observed, 'Whenever a given agricultural population grew beyond a given 'ceiling', the probability increased of some sudden catastrophe that would drastically reduce the population itself" As the trends are at present, there is a long run of incompatibility of noticeably divergent fertility rates and death-rates The consequences of such an increase in the long run in a population are incompatible with any estimated resources no matter how large the estimate may be The district and the country are underdeveloped and any demographic explosion will be fatal in the long run and the birth-rate has got to be brought down to a manageable level released a substantive improvement in the level of living. With a population pressure such improvements are difficult to obtain. In the long run either fertility rate must be reduced or mortality rates through some reason or other must increase unless there is counterbalance by large-scale exodus

Emigration and Immigration.

Emigration.

The people of this district are very hardy, brave, adventurous and military-minded. As they are not satisfied with the quiet life of a farmer and take delight in courting dangers, they generally prefer military or pseudo-military life Hence they generally form the bulk of the constabulary not only in the districts of Bihar but

also in the neighbouring State of Bengal They generally get themseleves recruited in the army This is the main reason for emigration from this district Besides this, the poorer section of the population go out to other districts and States as labourers, artisans and petty shopkeepers. For example, a large number of milkmen (*Goalas*) go out to Calcutta to trade in milk-supply business and there they maintain a few cattle for the purpose. The mills in the suburbs of Calcutta employ a large number of unskilled and semi-skilled labourers from this district The lure of such employment attracts people of this district to Calcutta and other important cities of India A large number of lawyers, doctors and men in other professions originally belonging to this district have finally settled in other districts where such facilities are available as not to be found in their home villages Many of the old aristrocratic families have settled in the important towns outside the district of Shahabad specially in Patna and Calcutta where they have got better amenities than in Shahabad The statement* later shows the number of emigrants, i.e. persons born in the district and enumerated outside and the proportion borne by them to the total population Regarding emigrants during 1911 and 1921 the *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), page 39, has mentioned that there were 90,681 males and 76,615 females in 1911 as against 88,184 males and 60,169 females in 1921. The figures indicate that there was a decline in the number of emigrants in the district within ten years The information regarding emigration is not available for the 1931 and 1941 censuses The figures of the 1921 Census have, therefore, been shown in the statement below to give a rough indication of the extent of emigration in the district† —

Within the State		----		Outside the State.	
Total (1951)	Per ten thousand of general population (1951)	Total (1921).	Per ten thousand of general population (1921)	Total (1921).	Per ten thousand of general population (1921).
1	2	3	4	5	6
61,084	227	42,841	236	1,05,465	580

The fertility of the soil and opportunities for employment in the heavy industries, Sone Canal, quarries, etc., are appreciably great within the district. It was but natural that there should be a comparatively low exodus of population from the district.

* *Census of India*, 1951, Vol. V, Bihar, Part I, Report, page 64.
† *Ibid.*

Emigration in 1921 Census was 2.36 per cent and 5.80 per cent within the State and outside the State respectively. In 1951 Census the incidence of emigration within the State was only 2.27 per cent. As stated before the figures of emigration outside the State for the 1931 and 1941 Censuses are not available, but from the *Census Report of Bihar* (1951) it appears that in the Chotanagpur and South Bihar Divisions the emigration was much low.

Immigration

In the 18th century when the Sone Canal was under construction a large number of labourers from the districts of Saran, Patna, Gaya, Palamau, Ballia, Banaras, Ghazipur and Azamgarh came to work in the project and many of them settled there. With the start of lime factories in the district towards the close of the 19th century a number of people came from the neighbouring districts and States to work in the quarries and in the factories. With the opening of the Dehri-Rohtas Light Railway more quarries were started and more people immigrated. Later on cement factories at Dalmianagar and Banjari were started employing a large number of skilled and unskilled workers most of whom were imported and a considerable number of them permanently settled in the area. The rapid industrialisation of the area served by the Dehri-Rohtas Light Railway led to further increase in the number of immigrants in that area. Recently Dehri-on-Sone (contiguous to Dalmianagar) has been highly industrialised leading to further immigration. The recent discovery of pyrites in that area is expected to lead to a further increase of immigration. Besides these the remodelling of the Sone Canal and the construction of a road bridge over the river Sone will lead to further immigration into the district. Immigrants are mostly from the neighbouring States of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. The following statement* shows the number and proportion of immigrants in Shahabad district in the years of 1931 and 1951 :—

Total		Per 10,000 of general population.	
(1951)		1951.	1931
82,292	..	306	337

The figures mentioned above indicate that immigrants constitute nearly 3.06 per cent of the total population in the year 1951 as against 3.37 per cent in 1931. The proportion of immigrants in the district is very poor in comparison with the other districts of the State specially Dhanbad and Singhbhum districts where the immigrants constitute 32 per cent and 13 per cent respectively.

* *Census of India* 1951, Vol. V, Bihar, Part I Report, page 63.

DISTRIBUTION BETWEEN URBAN AND RURAL POPULATION

The urban and rural population from 1901 to 1951 has been discussed in the *District Census Hand-Book of Shahabad* (1951), pages *iv-v*, which is as follows —

"There are only eight towns in the district and 4,729 villages. The ratio of the urban to rural population works out to 1 · 14 Four villages in the district have a population of more than 5,000 persons each. All the four subdivisional headquarters are towns and the other four urban areas are Dehri, Dumraon, Jagdishpur and Nasriganj. Arrah is the only town with a population exceeding 50,000 The second largest town Sasaram has less than 30,000 Except for Dehri and Nasriganj, all the other towns are quite old and municipalities were constituted for them in the year 1869. Arrah is the headquarters of the district and has a population of 64,205 persons The population has been increasing steadily since 1901 although there was a fall in 1911. In the decade 1911—20 also, this town recorded an increase in the population although there was a decline in the district as a whole It is situated on the Eastern Railway Main Line on the junction with the Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway. It was called Chakrapur or Ekachakra in legendary times and is supposed to have been named Aramnagar by the Buddhists It has no industry worth the name except metalware for local consumption. Sasaram (29 265) is also an old town. The only industry deserving mention is the manufacture of lacquered pottery The chief importance of this industry lies in the small cost of production and the high price that it fetches. The town has the advantage of being on the Grand Chord Line of the Eastern Railway and also on the Grand Trunk Road It is connected with Arrah town with a light railway. Dehri (24,496) which was recognised as a town for the first time at the 1941 Census has developed into a fine township. It is on the junction of the Eastern Railway Grand Chord Line and the Dehri Rohtas Light Railway. Situated on the western end of the long railway bridge across the Sone, it lies on the Grand Trunk Road also. The main Sone Canal starts from here and it has the headworks of the canal system with an anicut on the Sone. The main workshop for the maintenance of provisions for the canal requirements are also situated here. The present importance of the town is, however, due to the development of cement, lime and sugarcane industries since the early twenties.

Apart from the greater employment facilities offered by the industries, the high rate of increase in the population during the last decade as shown by Table A—IV, is due mainly to the assimilation of some of the suburban areas into the town on account of the large-scale industrial expansion during the period Buxar (18,087) on the bank of the Ganga and on the main line of the Eastern Railway has the advantage of both the kinds of trade communications. Dumraon (16,605) owes its importance to the Dumraon Raj It registered a large fall in its population at the 1911 Census and also a fall at the 1921 Census with the result that although the population has been rising steadily since 1921, the 1901 mark has still not been reached Jagdishpur (11,322), although an old town, is more properly an overgrown village. Over 54 per cent of its population are dependent on agricultural occupations for their subsistence It is on the Eastern Railway Main Line and the home of Kuar Singh, the hero of the Sepoy Mutiny. Nasriganj (8,741) was classified as a town for the first time at the 1941 Census It is situated about half a mile from the Sone on the Koilwar-Dehri Road and is a trading centre for articles of internal consumption At one time, Hariharganj a part of the town, was famous for hand manufacture of thin parchment paper known as *Basaha* Bhabhua with a population of 7,853 is the headquarters of a subdivision bearing the same name

"As elsewhere, urbanisation of the district has been making rapid strides The ratio of the urban to the rural population is 1 14 today against 1 15 of 1941, 1 : 16 of 1931 and 1 17 of 1921 The 1951 Census recorded an increase of 22 4 per cent in the urban population against 13 8 per cent of the rural population, over the 1941 total"

In 1961 Census there are nine towns in the district, namely, Arrah, Bhabhua, Bikramiganj, Buxar, Dehri. Dumraon, Jagdishpur, Nasriganj and Sasaram It has to be mentioned here that the concept of a town till 1951 was the population of 5,000 persons and above. In 1961 a different criteria has been fixed, i e, only places with the population of more than 5,000 persons, the density of more than 1,000 persons per square mile and if at least 75 per cent of adult male population engaged in non-agricultural occupations fulfil the condition of being a town. According to this criteria Bikramganj which was a village with a population of 1,872 in 1951 Census has now become a town with a total population of 5,681. A city in Census means a place with one lakh and above population. As such there is no city in the district.

The table given below gives the list of all the towns in the district with population figures from 1901 to 1961.—

Town	Persons	Variation	Net variation, 1901—1961	Males	Variation	Females.	Variation
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			ARRAH				
1901	46,170		.	22,019		24,151	..
1911	38,549	—7,621		19,955	—2,064	18,594	—5,557
1921	40,769	+2,220	.	21,564	+1,609	19,205	+611
1931	48,922	+8,153	.	26,635	+5,071	22,287	+3,082
1941	53,122	+4,200	..	28,456	+1,821	24,666	+2,379
1951	64,205	+11,083	.	33,683	+5,227	30,522	+5,856
1961	76,766	+12,561	+30,596	41,748	+8,065	35,018	+4,496
			SASARAM				
1901	23,644		.	10,382		13,262	..
1911	23,097	—547		10,483	+101	12,614	—648
1921	22,308	—789		10,674	+191	11,634	—980
1931	25,175	+2,867		12,473	+1,799	12,702	+1,068
1941	27,201	+2,026		13,710	+1,237	13,491	+789
1951	29,265	+2,064		14,782	+1,072	14,483	+992
1961	37,782	+8,517	+14,138	19,540	+4,758	18,242	+3,769
			DEHRI				
1901			.			..	.
1911			.			.	..
1921					.		..
1931						..	
1941	8,281			4,591	.	3,690	.
1951	24,495	+16,214	.	14,826	+10,235	9,670	+5,980
1961	38,092	+13,596	..	22,723	+7,897	15,369	+5,699
			BUXAR				
1901	13,945		..	6,857	.	7,088	..
1911	11,309	—2,636	.	5,827	—1,030	5,482	—1,606
1921	10,098	—1,211	..	5,256	—571	4,842	—640
1931	13,449	+3,351	..	7,430	+2,174	6,019	+1,177
1941	14,879	+1,430	..	8,036	+606	6,843	+824
1951	18,087	+3,208	.	9,742	+1,706	8,345	+1,502
1961	23,068	+4,981	+9,123	12,353	+2,611	10,715	+2,370
			DUMRAON.				
1901	17,236	..	..	8,059	..	9,177	..
1911	15,042	—2,194	..	7,402	—657	7,640	—1,537
1921	14,132	—910	..	7,137	—265	6,995	—645
1931	14,421	+289	..	7,602	+465	6,819	—176
1941	16,316	+1,895	..	8,473	+871	7,843	+1,024
1951	16,605	+289	..	8,486	+13	8,119	+276
1961	19,662	+3,057	+2,426	10,313	+1,827	9,349	+1,230

Town.	Persons.	Variation.	Net variation. 1901--1961.	Males.	Variation.	Females.	Variation.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			JAGDISHPUR.				
1901	11,451	..	..	5,347	..	6,104	..
1911	8,924	—2,527	..	4,229	—1,118	4,695	—1,409
1921	8,564	—360	..	4,201	—28	4 363	—332
1931	9,661	+1,097	..	4,791	+590	4,870	+507
1941	10,658	+997	..	5,313	+522	5,345	+475
1951	11,822	+664	.	5,595	+282	5,727	+382
1961	11,840	+518	+389	5,919	+324	5,921	+194
			NASRIGANJ.				
1901	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1911	..	..	..	.	.	..	.
1921	..	.	..	..	..	..	..
1931	..	..	.		..	.	..
1941	7,817	..	..	3,786	.	4,031	..
1951	8,741	+924		4,232	+446	4,509	+476
1961	8,920	+179	.	4,481	+249	4,439	—70
			BHABHUA.				
1901	5,660		.	2,691	.	2,969	.
1911	5,452	—208	.	2,657	—34	2,795	—174
1921	5,435	—17	..	2,731	+74	2,704	—91
1931	6,002	+667	.	3,220	+489	2,782	+78
1941	7,164	+1,162	..	3,809	+589	3,355	+573
1951	7,858	+694		4,153	+344	3,705	+350
1961	9,890	+2,032	+4,230	5,378	+1,225	4,512	+807
			BIKRAMGANJ.				
1901	..	.	..	..	..	..	..
1911	..	..		.	.	.	..
1921	.	.		..	..	.	..
1931	.	..	..	..	..	..	..
1941	..	..	..		.	.	..
1951	1,872	..	..	956		916	..
1961	5,681	+3,809	..	3,083	+2,127	2,598	+1,682

The further increase in urban population in 1961 Census is due to a spurt of industrialisation in many of the areas Growth of new towns like Dalmianagar, Koilwar, and a shift of the families of many ex landlords to the towns after the abolition of *zamindari*, etc. The opening of communications developed further the trade centres and they received more population Many of the block headquarters have developed into townships while the expansion of the administrative departments owing to the Five-Year Plans increased the population of the subdivisional and the district headquarters The highest incidence of urbanisation of Arrah town was followed by Sasaram, Dehri, Buxar and Dumraon. More details will

be found in the description of these places in the text on 'Places of Interest'. Arrah has now got three Degree colleges for boys and one Degree college for girls and a large number of other educational institutions All of them are crowded institutions The courts and a large number of district offices of administrative departments have had expansions The same trends are also found for Sasaram. The development of an industrial zone by the side of the Sone river covering Dalmianagar, Tilouthu, Banjari, Rohtas and Pipardih has naturally led to a further expansion of the subdivisional headquarters

Rural population has also had an enormous increase The growth of population is quite high in all the thanas excepting Sandesh thana The chart below gives the population figures for 1951 and 1961 in the different thanas —

Name of the thana	Total population	
	1951	1961
Sadar subdivision.		
Arrah town Arrah Nawada	64,205	76,766
Arrah Mufassil	1,62,618	1,36,227
Koilwar*		71,300
Sandesh	67,264	66,059
Barhara	78,165	84,959
Shahpur	1,21,644	90,732
Behea†		58,357
Jagdishpur	1,01,323	1,18,121
Piro	1,37,421	1,56,165
Sahar	85,951	95,555
Tarari	66,679	77,409
Buxar subdivision		
Buxar	85,274	1,05,095
Rajpur	81,353	96,591
Itrahi	49,727	60,618
Dumraon	1,76,582	1,11,186
Simri‡		89,625
Nawanagar	67,532	77,793
Barhampur	76,438	95,080

* Koilwar was not a separate thana in 1951. It was included in Arrah Mufassil thana

† Behea was not a separate thana in 1951. It was included in Shahpur thana

‡ Simri was not a separate thana in 1951 It was included in Dumraon thana

Name of the thana.	Total population. 1951.	1961.
Sasaram subdivision.		
Bikramganj	1,45,014	1,72,896
Dinara	78,184	96,292
Dawath	62,879	71,014
Karghar	82,066	1,00,772
Nokha	62,139	77,902
Sasaram	1,45,819	1,84,204
Rohtas	53,551	73,902
Chenari	31,776	41,644
Dehri	93,612	1,21,197
Nasriganj	70,688	78,813
Bhabua subdivision.		
Mohania	56,218	71,252
Ramgarh	74,638	87,682
Durgawati	38,945	47,248
Kudra	39,222	49,355
Bhabua	1,26,703	1,52,133
Chainpur	51,279	61,517
Adhaura	14,724	16,985
Chand	38,414	45,576

In 1961 no police thanawise census was done in the district. Census was taken *anchalwise* as the new administrative unit is the *anchal*. *Anchal* is a unit of revenue administration below the sub-divisional level and above the *halka* level. An *anchal* has about ten to twelve *halkas* which are smaller units and each *halka* comprises ten to twelve villages covered under two or three *gram panchayats*. The chart below gives the population figures for 1961 in the different *anchals* of the district* --

Name of *Anchals*	Population Total	Males	Female
SADAR SUBDIVISION			
Arrah	1,51,714	77,837	73,877
Udwantnagar	61,279	30,019	31,260
Koilwar	71,300	34,691	36,609
Sandesh	66,059	32,270	33,789
Barhara	84,954	40,091	44,863
Shahpur	90,732	44,158	46,574
Behea	58,357	28,488	29,869
Jagdishpur	1,18,121	58,583	59,538
Charpokheri	53,084	26,420	26,664
Piro	1,03,081	50,822	52,259
Sahar	95,555	47,238	48,317
Tarari	77,409	38,082	39,327

* Census of India, 1961, Volume IV, Bihar, Part II-A, General Population Tables, pages 20—32.

Name of *Anchals*	Population.		
	Total	Males.	Females
BUXAR SUBDIVISION			
Buxar	1,05,095	54,149	50,946
Rajpur	96,591	49,016	47,575
Itarhi	60,618	30,757	29,861
Simri	89,625	43,554	46,071
Dumraon	1,11,186	55,923	55,263
Nawanagar	77,793	38,859	38,934
Barhampur	95,080	46,707	48,373
SASARAM SUBDIVISION			
Bikramganj	83,647	41,905	41,742
Karakat	89,249	44,139	45,110
Dinara	96,292	48,435	47,857
Dawath	71,014	35,338	35,676
Karghar	1,00,772	51,350	49,422
Nokha	77,902	39,068	38,834
Sasaram	1,25,306	64,505	60,801
Sheosagar	58,898	29,840	29,058
Rohtas	39,230	20,743	18,487
Nauhatta	34,672	18,536	16,136
Chenari	41,644	21,101	20,543
Dehri	1,21,197	66,124	55,073
Nasriganj	78,817	38,830	39,977
BHABHUA SUBDIVISION			
Mohania	71,252	36,124	35,128
Ramgarh	87,682	43,944	43,738
Durgawati	47,248	23,839	23,409
Kudra	49,355	25,161	24,194
Bhabhua	93,857	47,479	46,378
Bhagwanpur	58,276	29,550	28,726
Chainpur	61,517	30,995	30,522
Adhaura	*16,985*	*8,723*	*8,262*
Chand	*45,576*	*23,333*	*22,243*

URBANISATION TRENDS IN SHAHABAD DISTRICT.

Old times.

Shahabad district is one of the most important districts of Bihar. It has a great historical background and culture There was a high incidence of trade and commerce through the roadways and the riverways long before the railways were constructed Even before the British came to the district, Shahabad had important commercial centres, large villages and towns Both during the Hindu rule and subsequent Muslim rule the district had played an important role Some of the pilgrim centres both for the Hindus and the Muslims had already developed into towns when the Britishers came Buxar, Sasaram, Tilouthu, Arrah, Masarh, Ramgarh, Chenari, etc, have old historic relics and temples In the Muslim time, Tilouthu, Sasaram, Rohtas and Shergarh had come into prominence Riverine trade by the Ganga had made Barhara, Buxar Chousa and Koilwar important Sandesh, Nasriganj and Dehri had developed trade through the Sone river Sasaram and its neighbourhood had a great development in Sher Shah's time The trans-district and trans-province road now known as the Grand Trunk Road was one of Sher Shah's achievements The existing trade was much improved by him

When Buchanan visited Tilouthu he found the place inhabited by *Iraki* (Iraqi) Muslim traders

In tracing the history of urbanisation in Shahabad district Buchanan Hamilton's Journal on Shahabad may be treated as a landmark Buchanan Hamilton went through Shahabad district in 1812-13 His Journal was edited by C E A W Oldham and was published in 1926 Buchanan had passed through a number of important places in Shahabad district including Arrah, Shahpur, Barhampur, Dumraon, Nawanagar, Bikramganj, Nokha, Sasaram, Tilouthu, Rohtas, Nauhatta, Adhaura, Ramgarh, Durgawati, Mohania and Chainpur Buchanan has used the word town for Bhojpur while he described Koliwar (Koilwar) a decent village He also mentioned Arrah as a town on a small elevated space Dumraon is described as "a pretty large country town" Buchanan also mentioned Suryapur (Surajpura) as a small town He has given a long description to Saheseram (Sasaram) as "a large town extending more than a mile each way and more closely built than usual". Thilautta (Tilouthu) is described as a small town "inhabited by *Iraki* (Iraqi) Muslim". Jagdishpur was also "a pretty large town but very poor"

It will appear that Buchanan's criterion of a town was the population He has not mentioned when a village passes into a decent village or to a country town or to a large town like Saheseram

Present times.

The census reports from 1872 give us more reliable data to trace the growth of the towns in the present times In the Census

of 1872 according to Mr. W W Hunter, there were eight towns, namely, Arrah, Sasaram, Dumraon, Buxar, Jagdishpur, Bhojpur, Nasriganj and Bhabhua* But from the perusal of the Report on the Census of Bengal, 1872, it appears that there were only seven towns (all the towns mentioned above except Bhojpur) We do not find the name of Bhojpur as town in later censuses and this gives rise to the doubt as to whether Bhojpur was a town in 1872 or not Probably Bhojpur being a very largely populated village and particularly by influential *zamindars* was treated as a town In the Census of 1872 it appears that the towns were, more or less, enumerated on the population and places with a population of 5,000 persons and above

It appears that for some reasons or other Bhojpur and Nasriganj lost their entity as towns before the census authorities soon after In the list of towns in the Census Report of 1901 there is no mention of Nasriganj and Bhojpur The other places mentioned, however, continued to be treated as towns

The census reports from 1901 to 1931 mention only six towns in the district, namely, Arrah, Sasaram, Dumraon, Buxar, Jagdishpur and Bhabhua The criteria laid down in the Census report of 1901 for treating a place as town and its classification according to the population till 1931 —

> "The term town includes every municipality of whatever size, all civil lines not included within municipal limits, every cantonment and every other collection of houses, permanently inhabited by not less than 5,000 persons, which is of an urban character though not under municipal government The numerical test was not however strictly applied and many places containing under 5,000 inhabitants, were, for special reasons, treated as towns in the Census, while others with a population of over 5,000 were omitted The towns are grouped in six classes The first class consists of towns containing a population of 1,00,000 and over, the second from 50,000 to 1,00,000, the third from 20,000 to 50,000, the fourth from 10,000 to 20,000, the fifth from 5,000 to 10,000 and the sixth of 5,000 and under" †

It may be mentioned that for census purposes all the municipalities and cantonments irrespective of their size were regarded as urban. With regard to the classification of the other areas, no hard and fast rule appears to have been laid town It appears that every

* W. W Hunter · *A Statistical Account of Bengal*, Vol. XII (1877), page 268.

† *Census of India*, 1901, Vol 1 A, Part II, Tables by H H Risley and E. A. Gait, page 15.

continuous collection of houses, which although not under a municipal area but had a "distinctively urban character" was given the status of a town The standard for fixing any area as urban was not rigid. In considering whether a particular area should be treated as urban or rural, various factors such as the number and occupation of its inhabitants, density of population, its character as trade centre, historical associations, etc, were taken into consideration In the Census Report of 1931 the observation was made·—"Generally speaking, it may be taken for granted that the areas treated as rural area indubitably so, but several of the small towns are on the border line"*. It appears that Nasriganj was on the border line at that time Up to 1931 Census the classification of a town according to its population into six groups remained the same as in 1901 Census.

The concept of a town underwent a change in the census operations of 1941. W. G Archer, Superintendent of Census Operations, in 1941, observes —"Places treated as towns in 1931 included all municipalities and cantonments and a small group which although not under municipal government, was deemed to have urban characteristics In 1941, this latter criterion was taken to mean a marked preference for the brick house as against the mud house and a population of at least 5,000"† On this basis Nasriganj and Dehri were treated as towns. The population of Nasriganj and Dehri was 7,817 and 8,281 persons respectively. Shahabad district had eight towns, namely, Arrah, Sasaram, Buxar, Dumraon, Jagdishpur, Bhabhua, Nasriganj and Dehri according to the Census of 1941. This number of the towns continued in 1951 Census

In the Census Report of 1941 the towns are not shown under the classification of 1931 This may be due to the fact that owing to war exigency the census operations of 1941 were very much curtailed. This classification again appears in the Report of the Census Operations of 1951‡

A Town in 1961 Census

A slight change was brought in for treating a place as a town in 1961 Census According to this census, Class I represents towns (technically called cities) with a population of 1,00,000 and above, Class II, 50,000–99,999, Class III, 20,000–49,999, Class IV, 10,000–19,999, Class V, 5,000–9,999 and Class VI less than 5,000 In the Census Operations of 1961 towns were determined on the basis of a number of empirical tests (*a*) a density of not less than 1,000 per square mile; (*b*) a population of 5,000, (*c*) three-fourth of the occupations of the working population should be outside of agriculture, and (*d*) the place should have, according to the Superintendent

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* *Census of India*, 1931, Vol. VII, Bihar and Orissa Part I Report, page 90.

† *Census of India*, 1941, Vol. VII, *Bihar* by W. G. Archer, page 21.

‡ *District Census Hand-Book, Shahabad* (1954), pages 8-9.

of the State, a few pronounced urban characteristics, the definition of which, however, leaves room for vagueness.*

It may be mentioned that for the first time in the 1961 Census Operations emphasis was put on the occupations of the working population outside agriculture. This is in great contrast to the previous conceptions when the strength of population or the existence of a municipality or a cantonment decided the issue. In 1961 Census for the first time non-agricultural pursuits of three-fourth of the population was also adopted as a criterion for a town. By this time quite a few places in Bihar without any municipality had come into prominence because of industrialisation. According to 1961 Census, all the eight towns in the district continued as such and Bikramganj was upgraded to the status of town for the first time. Thus the district came to have nine towns.

MUNICIPALITIES, DISPENSARIES AND SUBDIVISIONS, ETC.

Since the 19th century the setting up of the municipalities has been taken to be a necessary feature in a town. Before the municipalities came into existence, there used to be Road Cess Committees in the towns controlled and run by the Government officials and usually the District Magistrate as the head. The Committee was mainly constituted for the improvement of roads, culverts, etc., of the towns.

The first municipality in the district was established at Arrah in 1865 and the municipalities at Bhabhua, Buxar, Dumraon, Jagdishpur and Sasaram followed in 1869.† The first dispensary was also started at Arrah in 1860, Jagdishpur in 1864, Sasaram in 1865, Buxar in 1866, Dumraon in 1871, Dehri in 1872, Bhabhua in 1873 and Nasriganj in 1874.‡

Arrah appears to have been the headquarters of the district from the very beginning. The subdivisional system, as mentioned in the *Shahabad District Gazetteer* (1906) was not introduced till nearly half a century later. Sasaram was made a separate subdivision in about 1846 while the Buxar and Bhabhua subdivisions were created in 1857 and 1865 respectively.** The first high school was established at Arrah in 1853, then at Sasaram in 1875, Dumraon in 1866, Buxar in 1887, Bhabhua in 1920, Dehri in 1924, Jagdishpur in 1927 and Nasriganj in 1929. The years of the establishment of municipalities, dispensaries, educational institutions and creation of subdivisions with headquarters in the towns indicate their antiquity and importance. Moreover they also show their development and assure further urbanisation.

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* *Census of India, Paper no. 1 of 1962*, 1961 Census, pages xxxv and xxxvi.

† *Shahabad District Gazetteer* (1906) by L. S. O'Malley, pages 120—122.

‡ *Ibid*, p. 47.

** *Ibid*, p. 111.

Urban Population.

The growth of population is also another important indicator of urbanisation. The population of each town as enumerated in the experimental Census of 1869 and thereafter in the regular decennial censuses since 1872 is given below —

Table I *

Towns.	Total population										
	1869	1872	1881	1891	1901	1911	1921	1931	1941	1951	1961
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Arrah	23,934	39,386	42,998	46,905	46,170	38,549	40,769	48,922	53,122	64,205	76,766
Sasaram	17,114	21,023	21,818	22,713	23,644	23,097	22,308	25,175	27,201	29,265	37,782
Buxar	10,066	13,446	16,498	15,506	13,945	11,309	10,098	13,449	14,879	18,087	23,068
Jagdishpur	8,604	9,400	12,568	12,475	11,451	8,924	8,564	9,661	10,658	1' 322	11,840
Bhojpur	.	7,004	Ceased to be a town								
Nasriganj	4,059	5,732	..	..	..	.	.	.	7,817	8,741	8,920
Bhabhua	4,662	5,071	5,728	10,216	5,660	5,452	5,435	6,002	7,164	7,858	9,890
Dumraon	14,615	17,356	17,429	18,384	17,236	15,042	14,132	14,421	16,316	16,605	19,662
Dehri						.			8,281	24,496	38,092
Bikramganj							.		.		5,681

*Compiled from *Imperial Census Table IV of* 1911 and as quoted in Table III of *Shahabad District Gazetteer*, B Volume, *Statistics*, 1900-1901 to 1910-11, page 3, (2) *A Statistical Account of Bengal* (1877), Volume XII, by W W Hunter, p 203, (3) *District Census Hand-Book, Shahabad* (1954), pages 8-9 and (4) *Census of India*, 1961, Volume IV, Bihar, Part II-A, General Population Tables, pages 29—31

According to 1961 Census, Arrah belongs to Class II town, Dehri, Sasaram and Buxar come under Class III towns, Dumraon and Jagdishpur belong to Class IV towns and Bhabhua, Nasriganj and Bikramganj are Class V towns From population point of view, Arrah has been at the top from 1872 till 1961, Sasaram was next to Arrah till 1951 In 1961 on the population basis the towns were grouped as follows —Arrah, Dehri, Sasaram, Buxar, Dumraon, Jagdishpur, Bhabhua, Nasriganj and Bikramganj

The reasons for the rapid increase or slight decrease in the population of a particular town at various census years will be dealt with while discussing each town separately A detailed discussion on Arrah is given below and will give a general picture of the trends in urbanisation in this district

ARRAH.

Mr Francis Buchanan visited Arrah town in November, 1812 and his description of the town is as follows —

"Arrah stands on a small elevated space surrounded by numerous creeks and lowland liable to be occasionally flooded so that the town cannot be extended without erecting embankments, and then the houses would be damp The only remedy would be digging tanks and building on the earth thrown out, but enlarging such a place is no object as it is already abundantly large for containing all the attendants of the courts of justice, and it is not a place suited for trade In an estimate made by the Collector, but without an actual enumeration, it is supposed to contain 2,775 houses, with 8 people to a house The former I do not think can be exaggerated The buildings are in general mean and close huddled together, but some decent roads have been made through it, forming tolerable streets The Buxar road runs its whole length and at its east end has a close-built town on both sides, but towards the west and on its north side is an open lawn in which are placed the court houses, the accommodations for the Judge of circuit and the houses of the Judge and Surgeon, all buildings sufficiently commodious but no sort of ornament to the place Two fine broad roads pass south at right angles to the west end of the great road, and about their middle are crossed at right angles by another parallel to the (great) road This is the handsomest part of the town At its west end are the Collector's office, his and his assistants houses and those of some Europeans not in the service, none of the buildings in any degree ornamental Good roads with abundant small bridges surround the town

in all directions for a little way, and are kept in very good order by the convicts. The jail has a very poor building. There are two or three small mosques and temples in good repair but in no manner remarkable. The soil seems poor and the plantations rather stunted, but several of the natives seem fond of gardens, in which they have collected a great variety of trees and a good many flowers. The environs are very neatly cultivated and well-watered*".

The above description points out that in the early nineteenth century the town was liable to be flooded and was not suited for trade. The soil was poor and the plantations were stunted. The town had an abundance of large areas with buildings without any ornamental shape or design. It may be mentioned that the low-lying parts of the town had for centuries been liable to flood on the occurrence of high floods in the river Sone. Much damage was done even in 1923 when the Sone rose to an unusual height†.

The observation of Mr Buchanan as to the town of Arrah not suited for trade centre, does not hold good now. The soil is no longer poor but has become fertile. The hinterland has the facility for irrigation from the Sone canal and is rich. The town is now developing trade and commerce and much helped by good road and railway communications.

Location and Toponomy

In '*A Statistical Account of Bengal*', Mr. W. W. Hunter mentions, "Arrah, the administrative headquarters of the district, is situated 84° 43′ 10″ east longitude and 25° 33′ 35″ north latitude‡, about 14 miles south of the Ganges and 8 miles west of the Sone . . . . . To the north of the town lie the lowlands, making the old bed of the Ganges, which are annually inundated during the rains. The name Arrah, properly spelt Arah, is said by some *pandits* to be derived from the Sanskrit *aranya* or waste, the name given by the five sons of Pandu when Arrah was a forest. They are said to have married Draupadi at this place. General Cunningham, however, shows from an inscription in a temple of Masar that the original name of Arrah was Aramnagar**". An old temple standing between the old and new portions of the town still goes by the name of Aranya Devi. There are also various legends which are associated with the name of Arrah described in General Cunningham's article on Arrah in Vol. III, Reports, A.S.A.

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* *Journal of Francis Buchanan* (kept during the survey of the district of Shahabad in 1812 1813), edited by C. E. A. W. Oldham (1926), pages 7-8.

† *Ibid*, foot-note, page 7. (Editor's note.) There have been subsequent Sone floods inundating parts of Arrah town.

‡ In *Shahabad District Gazetteer* (1906) at page 126, the town is mentioned as situated in 84° 40′ east longitude and 25° 34′ north latitude.

** W. W. Hunter: *A Statistical Account of Bengal* (1877), Vol. XII, p. 204.

There is a village named Bakri about one and half miles south from the Arrah Railway Station There is a legend that in this part of the town there was the house of a powerful demon named Bakra, whose daily food was a human being supplied either by the village of Bakri or by Chakrapur (or Ekachakra), as Arrah was then called Ekachakra has been mentioned as one of the capital cities of India in the time of Buddha During their wanderings, the five Pandavas came to Chakrapur and were entertained by a Brahman whose turn was that day to supply a victim for the demon Bhim who had eaten the Brahmana's salt decided to go himself to the demon He fought and killed the demon at Bakri and then brought his body to Chakrapur This myth is found in a more complete form in the *Mahabharata* and in the opinion of General Cunningham it must have been one of the time-honoured legends of antiquity which the Buddhists adopted for the glorification of their great teacher*

There are some mohallas in the town which are named after particular castes such as Chik toli, Mahajan toli, Milki, Ahirpura, Missir toli and Bind toli The names of these mohallas indicate that the predominant population followed a particular profession and belonged to particular occupational castes Babu Bazar signifies the name of Babu Kuar Singh of 1857 fame and Maulabag was named after a Muslim woman of the same name There is a mohalla named Parani Adalat where the old civil court buildings were located

Growth of population in Arrah town

The population of the town from 1872 to 1961 has been given in an earlier table

From 1872 to 1911 the population of the town had been fluctuating In 1872 the population was 39,386, in 1881, 42,998, in 1891 46,905, in 1901, 46,170 and in 1911, 38,549 The slight increase in the population from 1872 to 1891 seems due to natural accretion and the decrease in 1901 and 1911 Census years is primarily due to attack of plague during this period The *Census of India*, 1931, mentions, "There is always a possibility that at the time when the census is taken, some purely temporary and accidental influence may disturb the normal distribution of the population in urban and rural areas Thus in 1901 the panic caused by the plague in Patna and Arrah was responsible for a large exodus from those towns' In 1921, the only town (out of six in the district) which did not actually lose population was Arrah and it could make good a small portion of the loss it had suffered during 1901–1911. Its population in 1921 was 40,769 as compared to 38,549 in 1911 In 1931, the population of Arrah had gone up by 20 per cent (from 40,769 to 48,922). The virtual disappearance of plague from the town was

* *Shahabad District Gazetteer* (1906) by L. S. S. O'Malley, page 126.

mainly responsible for the striking recovery. However, the population in 1931 (48,922) was a little over than that of 1891 (46,905). In 1941, the population was 53,122 which showed a variation of 4,200 persons from 1931 Census This small percentage of increase in population is mainly owing to natural accretion. The population showed a somewhat rapid increase in 1951 Census year In 1951 the population was 64,205 (11,083 persons more than that of 1951 Census) The incidence of increase in 1951 was mainly due to the expansion in the administrative staff, improvement in communications which toned up the trade of the town, and large number of students coming from rural areas to this town for their higher studies. The factors such as expansion in the number of administrative offices and consequent increase in the administrative staff, educational development, rise in trade and business, etc., have been discussed later The rate of increase in the decade 1941–51 is about 21 04 per cent while to census the rate in the next decade is about 19 8 per cent

Urbanisation of Arrah Causes

Industrialisation has been the most important factor for the development of some of the important large towns of Bihar The development of Jamshedpur, Ranchi and Dehri may be ascribed to this fact Barauni is on the way to development for the same reason Some towns have also developed because of its religious importance and salubrious climate Deoghar is an example Development of trade and commerce also leads to urbanisation Some of the towns have developed or are developing mainly being administrative centres This factor is fully applicable to Arrah which is the headquarters of Shahabad district In Arrah there is neither any large-scale industry nor any famous pilgrim centre. The incidence of trade and commerce is also not very intense. The main factor for the development of the town is the fact that it is the headquarters of the administration

It may be pointed out that the opening up of a large number of shops and establishments, setting up of higher educational institutions (such as colleges and higher secondary schools) and starting of some cottage industries in the town particularly in recent times are some of the corollaries that have helped the tempo of urbanisation in Arrah

As Arrah was made the administrative headquarters of the district, the Collectorate offices, Civil and Criminal Courts and various other offices were located Officers, pleaders, mukhtears, doctors, clerks, businessmen, etc, came to the town for their own profession and they constituted the intelligent class of the society. The hospitals, *bazars*, shops, schools and colleges followed

From the figures supplied by the Collectorate at Arrah it appears that in 1944 there was a strength of about 248 non-gazetted staff while in 1953 it was 532 and in 1963, the number went up to

2,812. In 1953 there were 13 Deputy Collectors and 25 Sub Deputy Collectors whereas in 1963 there are 71 Deputy Collectors and 44 Sub-Deputy Collectors The increase in the staff indicates the expansion of the offices for the general administration of the district

The number of pleaders has also naturally been increasing rapidly. In 1963 there are 158 pleaders at Arrah In 1963 the number of mukhtears is 61 as against 78 in 1953 Since the examination for mukhtear has been abolished, the number has rather decreased in the last decade The figures relating to criminal cases and civil suits are relevant In 1901, 1911 and 1956, 2,165, 3,212 and 6,301 persons respectively were convicted or bound over * The number of suits filed in 1956 was 9,669 and the total value of the suits was Rs 66,11,105 while in 1901 and 1911 the number of suits disposed of was 8,908 and 11 392† The decrease in the number of suits instituted in 1956 as compared to that of 1911, is mainly due to the fact that rent suits which constituted the large share in 1911 or years thereafter, have been practically negligible in 1956 due to the abolition of the *zamindari* in 1950

In order to accommodate the large ministerial staff about 71 quarters were built in Nawadah Mahalla (near the railway station) in recent years Rajendra Nagar in the same area has come to existence where most of the inhabitants are Government employees who could not get accommodation in the ministerial quarters along with some other service holders

Two other areas, namely, Maharaja *Hata* and Baijnath Sahai *Ka Hata* have been developed and new buildings have been built Most of the occupants in the Maharaja *Hata* are persons associated with the teaching profession while in the other areas various types of service holders and businessmen have settled Besides these two particular areas, there have been new buildings or *kutcha* structures in almost all the areas of the town. The cultivated green belt ten or twenty years ago has shrunk or shifted as houses are being built on them The shift of the population from the villages to the towns has been accentuated after the abolition of *zamindari* discussed elsewhere The enormous expansion of the schools and colleges has brought in thousands of students in the town and no house remains vacant if it has to be rented Apart from residential purposes, houses or rooms meant for shops, restaurants, hotels have multiplied tremendously

* *Shahabad District Gazetteer, B. Volume, Statistics,* 1900-1901 to 1910 1911 p. 10 and *Bihar Statistical Hand Book,* 1956, p 102

† *Shahabad District Gazetteer, B. Volume, Statistics,* 1900 1901 to 1910 1911, p 12 and *Bihar Statistical Hand Book* 1956 p. 104

EDUCATION.

The incidence of progress in education is an index of the growth of the town.

In 1911 in the thana of Arrah which included the figure for Arrah town there were only 23,806 literates (20,659 Hindus and 3,147 Musalmans). The ratio of percentage of literates was 8 for the Hindus and 14 for the Muhammadans.* The total population of the town in 1911 was 38,549 and the population of Arrah thana excluding the population of Arrah town (which was a separate thana) was 2,35,564†. No separate figure for Arrah town is available. The *Old District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1906) mentions, "Education is in a backward condition in Shahabad, as according to the figures of the last Census it stands 29th in order of literacy among the districts of Bengal. The sole test of literacy was the ability to read and write, and only 83,595 persons, or 8.6 per cent of the males and 0.3 per cent of the females, could satisfy this simple qualification, in spite of the fact that the district contains 43,300 Kayasthas, of whom a large proportion were educated. Nearly half of the total number (39,253) were residents of the headquarters subdivision, and Bhabhua was the least advanced from an educational point of view, as out of a population of 3,06,401 persons only 8,185 could read and write‡".

But conditions have changed. In 1951 out of the total population of 64,205 in Arrah town there were 25,617 literates.** It shows that about 38 per cent of the town population was literate. This is the highest percentage of literacy among the towns of this district. But it may be pointed out that the incidence of literacy among females in this town is very low. Out of 25,617 literate persons only 7,055 were females. In 1961 out of total population of 76,766 of the town the total number of literate persons is 34,372 (23,660 males and 10,712 females).

The progress of primary education in Arrah will be evident from the figures given below§:—

Years.	No. of schools	No. of teachers.	No. of students.
1938-39	44	Not available	2,106
1939-40 ..	49	131	4,379
1940-41	75	Not available	4,438
1942-43 . ..	72	140	31,481
1943-44	72	140	32,999
1944-45	68	139	37,136
1962-64	76	126	5,340

* *Shahabad District Gazetteer, B Volume, Statistics*, 1900-1901 to 1910-1911, p. 26.

† *Ibid*, p. 4.

‡ *Shahabad District Gazetteer* (1906), p. 103.

** *District Census Hand-Book, Shahabad* (1954), p. 10.

§ Source of Information Arrah Municipal Office.

At present the following are the higher educational institutions, Zila Higher Secondary School (established as a high school in 1858), Town Higher Secondary School (established as a high school in 1882), N. N. Kshatriya Higher Secondary School (started as a high school in 1917), Government Girls' Multipurpose School (started in 1935 as a high school), Sri Jain Bala Vishram Girls' High School (started in 1954), Catholic High School (established in 1952), and the Model Institute, Arrah (established in 1917).

There are four colleges in the town, namely, H. D. Jain College, Arrah (1942), Maharaja College (1954), Jag Jivan College (1959) and Mahanth Mahadevanand Mahila Mahavidyalaya (1959). The details about these institutions have been given in the chapter "Education and Culture".

The H. D. Jain College has about 3,200 students and the Maharaja College about 1,700 students (1968).

Communications

Communications form another good index of the condition of a town. Hamilton Buchanan in his Journal (1812-13) mentions, "Good roads with abundant small bridges surround the town in all directions for a little way and are kept in very good order by the convicts."*

The following roads passed through this town as early as in 1876† :—

(1) Road from Sasaram to Arrah, 65 miles long, annual cost, £ 156, (2) Road from Sinha to Arrah, 11 miles, annual cost £ 22, (3) Road from Bihara to Arrah, 11 miles, annual cost £ 33. All the above three roads were unmetalled but were raised and bridged throughout. Besides, there were three unmetalled roads which were raised but not bridged :—

(1) Nawanagar to Arrah, 28 miles, annual cost £ 84, (2) Sahar to Arrah 19 miles, annual cost £47 10s., (3) Ekhgaon to Arrah, 12 miles, annual cost £ 36. The total length of the district roads, exclusive of village tracks was 957½ miles. Total expenditure £ 3,610 4s., of which £ 2,062 4s. was derived from Imperial, and the remainder from local funds. There was a road cess of one per cent on the permanent revenue of the district.

The *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1906) mentions, "During the rains, when the importations were greatest, the Sasaram and Arrah road, which is the principal line in the district, but unmetalled, was crowded with traffic, and it was painful to witness long strings of carts, half a hundred in a line, cutting their way through

* Journal of Francis Buchanan kept during the survey of the district of Shahabad in 1812-13, edited by C. E. A. W. Oldham (1926), p. 8.

† W. W. Hunter, *A Statistical Account of Bengal* (1877), pages 256-257.

a foot deep of puddles" As mentioned above Sasaram-Arrah road was an unmetalled road but from the following description as given in *Shahabad District Gazetteer* (1906) it appears that this road was metalled in later years By 1906 the District Board was maintaining 189 miles of metalled road, 527 miles of unmetalled road and 1,197 miles of village roads *

The expansion of communications in the district meant an improvement of Arrah town In order to improve the roads, a divisional office of Public Works Department was set up at Arrah in 1950 with its jurisdiction over the whole district In April, 1956 another divisional office of P W D, the Sasaram Division was created in 1956. Since the creation of Sasaram Division the jurisdiction of Arrah Division confines to Arrah and Buxar subdivisions whereas the jurisdiction of Sasaram Division extends over Sasaram and Bhabhua subdivisions

The Arrah Division completed the improvement of Arrah-Sasaram road (61 miles) in 1956, Arrah-Salempur road (10 miles) in 1959 and Arrah-Buxar road (46 miles) in 1957 All these roads have been metalled A portion of Arrah-Patna road measuring 7½ miles from Arrah town to Koilwar was transferred to this division by the Central Division, P W D, Patna in 1951 This portion of the road in the whole road was metalled by the Central Division, Patna Approach road (2 miles) from Koilwar on the Patna Arrah road to T B Hospital, Koilwar, was metalled in 1962 Two roads, namely, Arrah-Sinha (10 miles) and Arrah-Ekawanakhaira Sahar (22 miles) are under improvement

The Shahabad District Board maintains (in 1963) 112 miles of metalled-roads (but all the roads are of very short distance), 541 miles of unmetalled and 913 miles of village roads as compared to 287 miles of metalled, 691 miles of unmetalled and 1,078 miles of village roads in 1948-49 The reasons for the decrease in the length of the roads maintained by the District Board are that it has transferred several roads to the P. W D. Division, Arrah and Sasaram and has practically ceased its function regarding metalling the road. In addition to a few approach roads there is one road, i e, Arrah-Chapraghat road (nine miles—eight miles metalled and one mile unmetalled) which is motorable in all seasons There is no other road maintained by the District Board which connects Arrah with other places

The improvement and expansion of the roads through the district with Arrah as the centre brought in more trade, commerce and floating population to Arrah town Within the town also the Arrah Municipality expanded the roadways and improved the existing ones Details will be found in the texts on 'Local Self-Government' and 'Communications'.

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* *Shahabad District Gazetteer* (1906), pages 99 100

Railways.—This district is fairly well served by railways. Arrah town is on the main line of the Eastern Railway which runs through the north of the district. There is a large staff of the Eastern Railway posted in Arrah. The station has a large turnover of passengers and goods traffic discussed elsewhere.

Martin's Light Railway from Arrah to Sasaram was first opened on 6th March, 1911 with a track length of 41.48 K.M. The line from Arrah to Sasaram measuring 104.84 K.M. was completed on 12th November, 1914. Since then the railway is functioning. Between Arrah and Sasaram there are sixteen railway stations.

There is an office of the Superintendent, Light Railways, Arrah, functioning since 1955. There are three officers—one Superintendent, one Assistant Traffic Superintendent and one Assistant Loco Officer. Previously there was one District Engineer but the establishment of the Office Superintendent replaced the District Engineer.

There are separate Engineering and Traffic staff. The Engineering staff consists of 5 Class III staff and 180 Class IV staff; the traffic staff consists of the Traffic Inspector, one Assistant Inspector of Ticket control, 87 Class III staff and 81 Class IV staff. There is a Loco Shed where 139 workers are employed. The railway also runs a dispensary which has one qualified doctor and one compounder. For recreational purposes there is an institute where there is a library and equipments of games and sports.

There is one Railway Co-operative Credit Society in which out of about 450 employees 350 are members. The Society advances loan up to the extent of 75 per cent of the deposit in the Provident Fund at the rate of 7.5 per cent interest per annum.

So far the Eastern Railway station at Arrah is concerned there has not been any remarkable increase in the staff. However, the old railway station has been remodelled and more frontage has been given. Two retiring rooms have been recently constructed on the first floor. A garden has also been recently added. There is a catering establishment and a book-stall.

Water communication.—The *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1906) mentions "the main canals of the Son irrigation system are navigable, 128 miles of canals being now (1905) open to navigation, and a bi-weekly service of steamers runs from Dehri to Arrah."* But in later years due to inadequate water and fall in traffic the bi-weekly service of steamers was discontinued.

The main Ganga flows near Arrah town and there are important places like Barhara, Sinha, etc., on the Ganga river which clear a lot of passengers and goods meant for Arrah town. These places have a large boat-traffic. Previously a daily steamer service

* *Shahabad District Gazetteer* (1906), pages 100-101

of B. I. S. N. Coy used to run by the Ganga river and Sinha, was an important station for this steamer service. This service has now been discontinued. Details will be found elsewhere

Trade and Commerce.

As mentioned before trade and commerce in a town form an important feature From the Journal of Francis Buchanan of Shahabad (1812-13), W W. Hunter's, *A Statistical Account of Bengal*, Vol. XII (1877) and L. S. S. O'Malley's *Shahabad District Gazetteer* (1906), it appears that there was not a single manufacturing unit at Arrah. Manufacturers still in the proper sense of the word are few in number and of little significance. From their description Sasaram, Dehri, Behia and Nasriganj appear to have been more important than Arrah town for trade and commerce. That aspect still continues.

However, there is a good number of shops in Arrah dealing in cloth, grain and consumers' goods. There are about 30 wholesalers and most of them deal in cloths and grain. Next to the shops of these two commodities, come sweetmeat shops, hotels and betel-shops. In Arrah town almost all the shops and establishments were registered by 1958. From 1958 to 1962 there has been a great increase as will be seen in the table below —

Years.				No. of shops registered.	No of shops employing labour.	No of labour employed.
1958	..	..	..	2,406	682	1,996
1962	..	..	..	2,884	825	2,453

From the above figures it appears that most of the shops have self-employed labour and only a very small portion of the total number of shops engage labour from outside. There are a few rice, *dal* and oil mills. Furniture and other wood work are done in a number of establishments. The more important establishments are the following —

(1) M|s. Shahabad Engineering Works have employed 45 workers and manufacture pedal looms and spare parts of motor

(2) M|s. Arrah Engineering Works, Karmantola, have 30 workers and manufacture agricultural implements and also carries on fabrication work

(3) M|s. Keshri Industries, Aharpool have 15 workers and soap (washing) is made

(4) M|s. Bihar Engineering Works have 15 workers and manufacture spare parts of motor vehicles.

(5) M|s. Arrah Cold Storage have 15 workers and keep in cold-storage eggs, etc.

M|s. Jadunandan Mistry and M|s. Supan Mistry each employ about 12 workers and carry on sawing of timber and make furniture

The Railways form the main artery of trade and commerce. The figures of goods and passenger traffic of Arrah (Eastern) Railway Station from 1960 to 1962 and that of Light Railway Station, Arrah, from 1959-60 to 1962-63 have been given in the chapters 'Banking, Trade and Commerce and Communications'

DISPLACED PERSONS

The total number of displaced persons in this district according to the Census of 1951 is 2,054 from Pakistan All of them are rehabilitated in business, mostly in cloth business Loans ranging from Rs 500 to Rs 5,000 have been given to the displaced families and they are all settled Attempts were made to get a suitable site in the Arrah town but so far they have failed because of prohibitive price. Some lands have been acquired at Buxar and Sasaram, the cost of which was paid by the Government as well as by the displaced persons.

Some more displaced persons have come to the district in the recent years They have all been merged in the population and have taken to services or professions Some have taken up business. Bengali sweetmeat shops and Punjabi non-vegetarian hotels have become quite an attraction now

LANGUAGE

As regards the language of the district is concerned the revised *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), pages 40-41, mentions as follows —

"The vernacular current over the whole district is the dialect of Bihari Hindi called Bhojpuri* after the pargana of Bhojpur, which was formerly the centre of the power of the family whose head now lives at Dumraon This dialect, which is spoken by 18,01,404 persons in the district, has been characterised as a handy article made for current use, not too much encumbered by grammatical subtleties, and suitable to an alert active people In contrast with the Maithili dialect, it pronounces the vowel *a* with the clear sharp-cut accent heard all over Central Hindustan and on the other hand it possesses a long drawled vowel *a* which gives a tone to the whole language. The form current in Shahabad is the standard Bhojpuri, which exhibits a local peculiarity in preferring the letter *r* to *t* in the

* For a full account of Bhojpuri, *see* Grierson's *Linguistic Survey of India*, Vol. V, from which this sketch on the dialect has been condensed

conjugation of the auxiliary verb (e g, *bare*, he is, instead of *bate*) Bhojpuri has scarcely any indigenous literature, though a few books have been printed in it, and numerous songs are current, such as the epic of the cowherd Lorik, and what Dr Grierson calls the Bhojpuri National Anthem, i e, the song of the stick, in which the many virtues of the *lathi* are rehearsed. The character in general use in writing Bhojpuri is the Kaithi, but the Devanagari is also used by the educated classes

"Muhammadans and Kayasthas mostly speak the Awadhi dialect of Eastern Hindi (literally the language of Oudh), and Dr. Grierson considers that this is possibly an example of the survival of the influence of the former Muhammadan court of Lucknow It is estimated that in Shahabad 1,37,000 persons speak Awadhi, and this dialect is also commonly used as a sort of language of politeness by the rustics who have picked it up from their Musalman friends and imagine it to be the Hindustani of polite society The Devanagari and the Kaithi characters are both used in writing Awadhi, but the Persian character is also used by the educated classes, particularly by Muhammadans"

Since Dr Grierson's Linguistic Survey referred to in the quotation no comprehensive critical survey has been conducted and so his observation still holds good He has mentioned that *Kaithi* character is used both in writing *Bhojpuri* and *Awadhi* along with *Devanagari* script The former script, that is, *Kaithi* has practically disappeared and *Devanagari* script is used in writing in both the languages Persian character has also disappeared and has been displaced by Urdu

The table below shows the number of persons—males and females—in the district speaking different languages as mother-tongue gathered in 1951 Census*.—

Language.	Persons.	Males.	Females
Total population of the district	26,88,440	13,58,443	13,29,997
Indo Aryan languages—			
Hindi .. .	26,82,367	13,54,861	13,27,506
Bengali	2,610	1,531	1,079
Oriya . .	130	75	55
Punjabi	1,110	692	418
Marwari .	485	284	201
Nepali ..	171	146	25
Gujrati	4	4	
Other Indo Aryan languages	66	38	28

* *District Census Hand-Book of Shahabad* (1954), pages 72-73 Detailed figures collected in 1961 Census are not yet available (March, 1963)

Language	Persons	Males.	Females.
Munda Language—			
Santali ..	184	106	78
Dravidian languages—			
Oraon .. .	1,018	532	486
Telugu . .	91	54	37
Tamil . ..	26	17	9
Asiatic languages foreign to India.	10	6	4
Chinese .	10	6	4
European language—			
English .	168	97	71

Like the previous census Urdu had not been enumerated in 1951 separately and had been clubbed together with Hindi. Though Urdu has a separate entity but for the facility of the interested persons in the language, the Census of 1951 had given the number of Urdu speaking people as 1,61,916.*

Hindi has been shown to be the principal language of the district and the total speakers of Hindi in the district is 26,82,367.† Bhojpuri-speaking people have also been put under Hindi-speaking section. This has been done in 1961 Census also.

The vernacular spoken all over the district is the Bhojpuri dialect of the Bihari language which according to Grierson's classification, falls into the eastern group of the outer sub branch of the Aryan languages as a whole. The Bhojpuri is an offshoot of Eastern Hindi spoken in the eastern districts of Uttar Pradesh. It takes the name after the pargana Bhojpur in Shahabad.

It may also be cursorily mentioned that the Bhojpuri-speaking tract which covers Shahabad district as well is well-known as one of the homes of a martial race in India. Bhojpur pargana has been famous for martial activities through different ages and the *Bhojpurias* were given the name of *Bandukchi* (matchlock man) during Mughal India. The tract has always been a fruitful source of recruitment for the police and military. The stalwart Bhojpuri with his burly *lathi* (long staff) has been a familiar object striding over the field far from his home. Somehow the dialect of Bhojpur has also been taken as virile as the *Bhojpuria*.

* *District Census Hand Book of Shahabad* (1954), page 71.

† *Ibid*, page 73.

The contribution of Shahabad district to the literature in Bhojpuri, Hindi and Urdu has been discussed elsewhere. There are still quite a few persons in this district who can freely speak and deliver speeches in Bhojpuri. It is gathered that there were (March, 1963) a few Sikhs and Sindhis in the district who speak their own languages, i.e., Punjabi and Sindhi.

Bilingualism.

The table below shows the number of persons who commonly use another Indian language in their everyday life in addition to (and sometimes largely in supersession of) their mother-tongues as enumerated at the census of 1951*:—

Mother-tongue.	Total speakers.	Total persons returned as speaking languages subsidiary to that shown in column I	Subsidiary languages.	
1	2	3	4	
Hindi	26,82,367	615	Bengali	585
			Punjabi	15
			Nepali	15
Bengali	2,610	1,821	Hindi	1,808
			Oriya	11
			Nepali	2
Punjabi	1,110	916	Hindi	916
Oraon	1 018	355	Hindi	355
Marwari	485	347	Hindi	337
			Gujarati	10
Santali	184	43	Hindi	48
Nepali	171	41	Hindi	35
			Bengali	6
English	160	68	Hindi	63
			Bengali	5
Oriya	130	23	Hindi	10
			Bengali	13
Telugu	91	30	Hindi	28
			Bengali	2
Tamil	26	13	Hindi	12
			Bengali	1
Gujarati	4	1	Hindi	1

* *District Census Hand-Book of Shahabad* (1954), page 73. Detailed figures collected in 1961 Census are not yet available (March, 1963).

Bhojpuri Language and Literature

Bhojpuri is the westernmost dialect of the Eastern or Magadhan Group of Indo-Aryan languages It is a major dialect in this group. Dr. Grierson likes to call Western Magadhi by the name of Bihari. By Bihari he means a language consisting of three dialects, namely, Magahi, Maithili and Bhojpuri In this way, according to him, like Bengali, Oriya and Assami, Bhojpuri along with the other Bihari languages is derived from Magadhi *Apbhransha* But, on the other hand, he is aware of the fact that to a great extent, Bhojpuri is different from Magahi and Maithili, which are much more related to each other Bhojpuri has no complicated verb-system like Magahi and Maithili Maithili has √*achh* (अछ्) or √*chh* (छ्) which has no existence in Magahi or Bhojpuri [1] Keeping these differences in view, Dr S K. Chatterji is of opinion that Bhojpuri is derived from a group different from those of Magahi and Maithili.[2] He divides Magadhan languages into three groups—Western, Central and Eastern He relates Bhojpuri with the West Magadhan, Maithili and Magahi with the Central and Bengali, Assami and Oriya with the Eastern On the contrary, philologists like Dr Shyam Sundar Das, Dr Dhirendra Verma, etc, are of opinion that like Awadhi, Bhojpuri too is one of the sub-languages related to Hindi But, Dr Bishwanath Prasad holds a different view from the above In his opinion Bhojpuri is much more related to Ardhmagadhi [3] than to Magadhi. Further he says, according to Prakrit Vaiyakaranas, only palatal *sh* (श) is used in Magadhi in place of the three—dental, cerebral and palatal *sh* sounds Likewise, *l* (ल) is used in Magadhi in place of *r* (र). There is no such tendency in Bhojpuri Like Awadhi Bhojpuri has only dental *s* (स) and in its several forms *r* (र) is used in place of *l* (ल), which is prevalent even in Western Hindi For example, Hindi words like Thali Kela, Talawar, etc, become Thari, Kera and Tarawar in Bhojpuri [4]

Further Bhojpuri suffixes *As* (अस) in some of its verbs like Dekhas, Dekhalas, Dekhatas, etc, verbs like these have similarity with Awadhi which are derived from Ardhmagadhi From linguistic point of view, though Bhojpuri has many signs which bring it nearer to its sister languages like Magahi, Maithili and Bengali, yet from the point of view of its word-stock, case-endings, pronouns and pronunciations, it has similarity to a great extent, with Awadhi and

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[1] *See* '*Bhojpuri Bhasha Aur Sahitya*' (First Chapter, page 8) by Dr U. N Tiwari.

[2] *See* '*Origin and Development of Bengali language*' (page 92), by S K Chatterji.

[3] *See* '*Sampadak Ka Mantavya*' by Dr Bishwanath Prasad '*Bhojpuri Ke Kavi Aur Kavya*' (pages 6-7) by Shri Durga Shankar Prasad Singh.

[4] *See* the same as in 3 (page 1).

other sub-languages of Eastern Hindi. Several lines of *Ramcharitmanas* of Goswami Tulsidas are as much Bhojpuri as they are Awadhi or Baisawari. Likewise, many verses of Kabir and other saints, which were written mainly in Bhojpuri, are regarded as Awadhi. On the basis of the glossary prepared by the *Prakrit Vaiyakarans,* this much can be said that Bhojpuri comes under Eastern Language Group, and being related to the areas in between the two forms of this group, namely, Ardhmagadhi and Magadhi, it has the qualities of both in it.[1]

The name given to the language.

Bhojpuri has been named after the Bhojpur Pargana in the Buxar subdivision in the district of Shahabad. There are two small villages in this pargana, situated at a distance of three miles from each other on both sides of Arrah-Buxar road near Dumraon Railway Station. One is called old Bhojpur and another is known as the new one. In ancient times Bhojpur was a thickly populated, rich and wealthy city. It was the capital of the Ujjain Rajput Kings. Ujjain Rajputs are the descendants of the well-known illustrious King Bhoj or Bhojraj of Malawa. They came here as invaders and after defeating the aboriginal 'Chero' race of this place, established a small estate, which they named Bhojpur after the name of their famous predecessor. Reminiscences of their old fort known as *'Navaratna Durg'* can be traced in the New Bhojpur. In course of time, adjective Bhojpuri or Bhojpuria, derived from Bhojpur, was being used to represent the inhabitants as well as the language of this area. At the end of the Moghul rule, these terms are found in common use. We find the word Bhojpuria mentioned as a language, firstly in 1789. In his *Linguistic Survey of India,* Dr. Grierson refers to this language, as follows :—"Two days after, as a regiment of sepoys on its way to Chunar-Garh, was marching through the city at day-break, I went out and was standing to see it pass by, the regiment halted, and a few men from the centre ran into a dark lane, and laid hold of a hen and some roots, the people screamed. 'Do not make so much noise', said one of the men in his Bhojpuria idiom. We go today with the Frenghees, but we are all servants (tenants) to Cheyt Singh and may come back tomorrow with him and then the question will be not about your roots but about your wives and daughters."[2]

After that John Beams used the word Bhojpuri for the language in 1868 in an article by him, published in the Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society.

Bhojpuri is known also by some other names given to it after the names of the different areas or places in which it is used—*Buxaries, Chhaparahia, Benarsi, Bangarahi,* etc., are a few of such names.

[1] See 'Bhojpuri Ke Kabir Aur Kavya', page 7.

[2] See page 22 of the Supplement issue of the first part of the *Linguistic Survey of India by Dr. G. A. Grierson.*

Mahapandit Shri Rahul Sankrityayan likes to call it *'Malli'* after the name of *'Malla'* Janapada Malla was one of the sixteen *Maha-Janapadas* during the period of Mahatma Buddha. But, because the actual area and extent of this Janapada is not known, it is not wise and scientific to name the language after it

Range and Extent of the Language

During the reign of the Ujjain Kings, Bhojpur was not a big State as we find it today linguistically According to linguists, Bhojpuri is spoken from the Himalayan region adjoining the Uttar Pradesh and Bihar to the Surguja estate of Central Province in the south In Bihar it is spoken in Shahabad, Saran, Champaran, Ranchi, Jaspur, some portions of the Palamau and north-west of Muzaffarpur district [1] In Uttar Pradesh Varanasi, Ghazipur, Ballia, Mirzapur, Gorakhpur, Deoria, Azamgarh, a major portion of Jaunpur and the area up to river Kuwano in Haraiya Tahasil of the Basti district come into the range of this language In this way, it is spoken within an area of about fifty thousand square miles and by over three crores of people.

Sub-languages or Dialects of this Language

Dr Grierson has divided Bhojpuri into four sections They are – (1) Northern, (2) Southern, (3) Western, and (4) Nagpuria There are two subdivisions of Northern Bhojpuri according to him One of them is called Sarawaria and another Gorakhpuria Language spoken east of Gorakhpur is called Gorakhpuria and that of west is known as Sarawaria

Northern Bhojpuri is spoken in Gorakhpur, Deoria and Basti districts western in Varanasi, Azamgarh, Western Ghazipur, Mirzapur and Jaspur and Southern or standard Bhojpuri is spoken in Shahabad, Saran and Ballia districts People speak Nagpuria in Palamau and Ranchi districts of Chotanagpur Division Pandit Shri Ganesh Chaubey is of opinion that Dhangars or Oraons of Ramnagar and Bagaha P-S in Champaran district use this very Nagpuria dialect of Bhojpuri in course of their conversations with non-Dhangar folk. [2] But it is not a fact They do not exactly use Nagpuria. They speak a kind of mixed language like Tharoo

Bhojpuri spoken in the district of Champaran is known as 'Madhesi' by Dr Grierson due to its position in between Gorakhpuri Bhojpuri in the west and Maithili in the east In the lower

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[1] According to Dr. Grierson the language spoken in the north-west of Muzaffarpur district is Bhojpuri But, it is not a fact. The language spoken here, is neither Bhojpuri nor Maithili. It is the admixture of Bhojpuri and Maithili, which is now known as *'Vajjika'*, the name given by Maha Pandit Rahul Sankrityayan

[2] *See 'Bhojpuri Bhasha Aur Sahitya'* (page 4), paper read by Pandit Shri Ganesh Chaubey on the occasion of the Annual Function of the *'Bihar Rashtra-bhasha Parishad'* in October, 1959

region of the Himalayas, from Jalpaiguri in the east to Kumayun in the west, an aboriginal race is known by the name Tharoo These Tharoos of the adjoining areas of Champaran in Bihar and Baharaich in Uttar Pradesh, speak a kind of mixed Bhojpuri which is known as Tharoo

Stock of words and Grammar.

Bhojpuri has a very rich stock of words Words for every expression, however, subtle and peculiar it may be, are found in abundance. There are some peculiar words and expressions which have no parallel either in Hindi or in any other Indian language or dialect Bhojpuri words can be divided into four sections, viz, (1) Tatsama, (2) Tadbhava, (3) Deshaj, and (4) Videshi Proportion of Tadbhava and Deshaj words is greater than the rest. Due to foreign rules for about seven hundred years, many words of day-to-day business have been borrowed from Arabic, Persian, Turki, French and English Tatsama words are much less in number in comparison with the other three kinds

Bhojpuri has a very simple and clear grammar There is no complicated system of verb, number, gender, etc, in it. This is why, it is within the easy approach of all A Bhojpuri, however, highly educated he may be, always likes to talk in his own vernacular Even a non-Bhojpuri-speaking person finds it easy to adapt and speak within a short period of time Due to these qualities of the language, it would be no exaggeration to say that as Hindi is the simplest language of all the languages of the Indo-Aryan Group. Bhojpuri is the simplest one of all the sub-languages or dialects of Hindi

Script.

From the very beginning Kaithi has been the script for writing in Bhojpuri areas But, with the gradual development of education and press facilities, now it is being written mostly in Devanagari script Kaithi is now limited only with the older generation in letter writing, and other day-to-day domestic affairs But, all the old Sub-Registry, *zamindari* and personal documents of this area are found in Kaithi. Kaithi has been named after 'Kayastha', a Hindu caste of this area, whose main occupation has been the preparation and maintenance of different kinds of small or big records

Bhojpuri Literature.

Bhojpuri literature can be divided into two sections One is its folk literature, which is mostly alive on the tongues of the illiterate village or town folk. The other is the standard or written literature from the pens of different poets and authors. Now, let us take firstly its folk literature.

Folk Literature.

Bhojpuri has very rich folk literature in it. Different kinds of folk songs, folk tales, folk ballads, proverbs, maxims, etc, are found in abundance. From the very beginning of birth to death there are sixteen *Sanskaras* according to Vyasamriti in Hindu families [1]

Bhojpuri has different kinds of folk songs for different Sanskaras Besides, there are many most beautiful and heart-touching songs concerning every sphere of life Folk tales of different types and qualities, concerning gods and deities, men and beasts and other animals and supernatural beings are found in thousands. Folk ballads of gallantry and chivalry, pathos and sorrows are also in the memory of folk singers of this area These singers, at dead of night, sit beside the burning fire during the winter and in the open sky during summer and go on singing the ballads fluently as if they have some books or paper before them Aalha, Lorikayan or Loriki, Kunwar Vijai, Sorthi-*Brijbhar,* Saranga-Sadabriksha, Bihula, etc, are a few of them. Like Spanish in Indo-European Language Group, Bhojpuri has very rich stock of proverbs [2]

Folk literature in Bhojpuri has a very old tradition It goes back up to Rigveda, Brahmin Granthas and Grihsutras. Influence of Nath-Sidha literature is found in most of the folk songs of this language Oppressions on Hindu women by the Mugals and Turks are found narrated in songs like Jantsar. But, it is a fact that in spite of its such an old and rich tradition, notice was taken very late of the collection and study of this literature It was started first by the European scholars. At the end of the 19th century John Beams, Frazer Horneil, Grierson and others took interest in it and published some of the texts in English in different research journals Pandit Ram Naresh Tripathi was the first Hindi scholar, who took interest in the collection and publication of the folk songs of different languages in this country In course of this work he published many important Bhojpuri folk songs in his book, *Kavita-Kaumudi-Gramgit* in 1929 After that many individual persons took this work in their hands and published a lot. Along with the above European scholars, Dr Uday Narayan Tiwari, Dr. Bishwanath Prasad, Dr Krishnadeo Upadhyay, Reverend Santi Piter Navarangi, Dr Satyavarta Sinha, Shri Durga Shankar Prasad Singh, Pandit Shri Ganesh Chaubey, etc, are a few persons, whose contributions in this field are important At present the Bihar Rashtrabhasha Parishad of Patna has a large collection of this literature

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[1] These *Sanskaras* are thirteen according to Manusmriti and Paraskar, Baudnayan and Warah Grihsutras, eleven according to Aashvalayan Grihsutra, eighteen according to Vaikhanas Grihsutra and forty according to Gautam Dharmsutra For details, *see* '*Magahi Sanskar Git*' (pages 33-34) by Dr. B. N. Prasad, published by Bihar Rashtrabhasha Parishad, Patna.

[2] *See* '*Bhojpuri Ke Kavi Aur Kavya*', page 13.

Written Literature.

In the opinion of some great scholars like Dr S. K. Chatterjee, Bhojpuri is not rich enough in the field of its written literature. To a great extent, it is a fact. It is but natural for one to ask, why such a prominent language, which is spoken by over three crores of population, has a meagre written literature in it? In the opinion of Dr. U. N. Tiwari,[1] in ancient times, the Brahmins of Mithila and Bengal adapted Sanskrit along with their mother-tongues for literary pursuits Banaras has been the centre of learning, which is situated in the Bhojpuri area Bhojpuri people have always been getting inspiration from this centre of learning and thus, naturally Sanskrit should have been the medium of their education and learning

In the opinion of Dr Bishwanath Prasad,[2] Bhojpuri people have been historically and culturally so much closely connected with the Hindi areas that, keeping themselves aloof from it, they never felt the necessity to develop an independent literature of their own Up till now the educated Bhojpuri people have been using the language of the Central India as the language of their literature and culture The famous prose writer of Khariboli, Pandit Sadal Mishra, the originator of modern prose style, Bhartendu Harishchandra, the great Hindi novelist, Shri Premchanda and the well-known Hindi poet of this area, Shri Jaishankar Prasad were all natives of the Bhojpuri area and used to speak Bhojpuri. Another cause for the death of independent tradition of Bhojpuri literature is the adaptation of a common mixed language by the *Bhakta* and saints of medieval period for their literary pursuits It is because, they wanted to have a glimpse of the languages concerned in their literature so that it might be acceptable to all Further, Dr B N. Prasad says[3] that in his opinion, as Brajbhasha was the chief language for *Krishnabhakti-Shakha* and Awadhi for the *Rambhakti* and *Premmargi-Shakhas* so was the Bhojpuri for *Gyanmargibhakti-Shakha.* Kabir says about his own language as follows --

बोली हमारी पूरबी, हमको लखे न कोय ।
हमको तो सोई लखे, जो पूरब का होय ।।

In spite of numerous admixture of words from different dialects in his writings, Kabir has used the typical Bhojpuri words in their original forms Besides Kabir, many works of Dharamdas, Dharanidas Daria Saheb of Shahabad and of Sarbhang Sampraday of Champaran district are in Bhojpuri

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[1] *See 'Bhojpuri Bhasha Aur Sahitya'*, page 9, by Dr U N Tiwari.

[2] *See 'Bhojpuri Ke Kavi Aur Kavya'* page 7

[3] *Ibid.*

In his book, *'Bhojpuri Ke Kavi Aur Kavya'* Shri Durga Shankar Prasad Singh has divided the Bhojpuri literature into five periods. He has traced its origin from 700 A.D. According to him the period between 700 to 1100 A.D. is the 'undeveloped beginning period' of this literature. He visualizes many forms of Bhojpuri in the *Sidha* literature of this period. He names the period between 1100 to 1325 A.D. as beginning period (*Aadikal*) and during this period he points out to the composition of different kinds of folk ballads prevalent in this area. Periods between 1325 to 1650 A.D. and between 1650 to 1900 A.D. are premedieval and post-medieval according to his division. During pre-medieval period he points out the works of different saints and *Bhakta* poets and during the post-medieval he deals with the posterior saints and individual poets. From 1900 to 1950 A.D. he takes into account the modern poets and writers of this age.

In the opinion of Dr Bishwanath Prasad,[1] though it is not correct that Vidyapati, Govindadas, Soordas, Tulsidas and Mirabai have composed their poems in Bhojpuri, yet it is a fact that they have used a kind of mixed language in their works. And, to show the historical development of the literature of any concerned language it cannot be ignored.

In this way, we see that Bhojpuri has an old and long tradition, even of its written literature, though not a chronological one. During the present period, with the gradual development of education and research facilities many persons and institutions are taking much more interest in the study and development of this language and literature. Since 1900 A.D. many a masterpiece works have come to light and thus, the stock of this literature is gradually becoming richer and richer. A full length motion picture[2] has been produced recently in this language.

Prominent Bhojpuri writers and poets and their works

Bhojpuri prose is still in an undeveloped stage. It has no such old tradition as its poetry has. Its old specimen is found in only one book, namely, *'Ukti-Vyakti-Prakaran'* by Pandit Shri Damodar Sharma of 12th century A.D. The old form of its prose is mostly found in some two or three hundred years old *zamindari* records, lease *pattas*, sanads, etc. During the modern period though it is used in story, drama and essay writings still it is not so much popular as its poetry is.

Shri Awadhbihari 'Suman' is famous among the story-writers in Bhojpuri. His book, *'Jehal Ka Sanad'* is a very good collection of

[1] *See 'Bhojpuri Ke Kavi Aur Kavya'* page 7.

[2] The name of the picture is '*Ganga Maia Tohe Piyari Charhaibon*'. There have been since several other Bhojpuri pictures.

ten stories Many good stories by Shrimati Radhika Devi Shriwastawa have been published in '*Bhojpuri*', a monthly journal of this language

In 1884, Pandit Shri Ravidatta Shukla of Ballia wrote a drama, named '*Devakshar Charita*' in which supremacy of Devnagari script has been emphasised After that, within a period of fifty years only one folk drama, namely, '*Bidesia*' by Shri Bhikari Thakur of Chapra is found It was a very popular drama of its time and was acted not only in Bhojpuri areas, but also in big cities like Calcutta and Bombay. During the Second World War Mahapandit late Shri Rahul Sankrityayan wrote eight dramas in Bhojpuri which were popular during those days Besides, '*Ulta Jamana*' by Shri Gorakh Nath Chaubey and '*Kunwar Singh*' by Pandit Shri Ramvichar Pandey are two famous modern dramas in this language '*Loha Singh*' by Professor Shri Rameshwar Singh Kashyap has been very popular

Among modern Bhojpuri poets Shri Teg Ali of Varanasi is famous for his work '*Badmas Darpan*' in which we find the real form of Banarasi (western) Bhojpuri Before him, in 1884 Shri Kharagbahadur Singh of Ballia district published his book '*Sudha-Bunda*', a collection of sixty *Kajali* songs In 1886, '*Nagari Vilap*' by Shri Ramgarib Chaubey was published from Banaras Next comes Ramkrishna Verma 'Balvir' of Banaras who wrote a book named '*Biraha Naikabhed*' in which '*Naikabhed*' has been described in well known '*Biraha*' meter of Bhojpuri Pandit Shri Dudh Nath Upadhyay of Ballia wrote three books in which '*Bharti Ke Gil*' was meant for inspiring Jawans to join army during the First World War

During the Non-Co-operation Movement in the country Shri Raghubir Narayan, Principal Manoranjan Prasad Singh, Shri Harihar Singh and Shri Chancharik composed many poems which gave inspiration to the said movement '*Batohia*' of Shri Raghuvir Narayan and '*Phirangia*' of Principal Manoranjan were very much popular during those days Shri Prasidha Narayan Singh, Shri Ramvachan Dwivedi 'Arvinda', Shri Ramdeo Dwivedi 'Almasta', etc, also composed poems in the cause of the nation

After 1945, Bhojpuri poets concentrated their attention mostly on social life, nature's beauty and romance of village life *Dehati Dulki*' by late Shri Shyamvihari Tiwari 'Dehati', most heart-touching Biraha songs in Biraha meter by late Thakur Bisaram Singh, '*Amarlatt*' by Shri Arjun Kumar Singh, 'Ashanti', '*Aaj Ki Aawaj*' by Shri Mahendra Shastri, '*Sitar*' and '*Kolha*' by Shri Ramnath Pathak 'Pranai', *Binia Bichhia*' by Shri Ramvichar Pandey, etc., are a few beautiful and prominent works in Bhojpuri during the period '*Kunwar Singh*', a narrative poem by Shri Harendradeo

Narayan, is the first successful venture in this direction in Bhojpuri. Shri Arjun Kumar Singh 'Ashant' also, is busy with his narrative poem '*Buddhayan*' on the life of Mahatma Buddha

Besides, there are many modern poets in Bhojpuri, details about whose works are omitted for want of space Some of them are Shri Pandey Surendra, Professor Parmeshwar Ray, Professor Rameshwar Singh Kashyap, Shri Bhuvaneshwar Prasad 'Bhanu', Professor Ramdarash Mishra, Shri Ramkant Dwivedi 'Ramata', Shri Basant Kumar, Shri Banarasi Prasad 'Bhojpuri' Shri Kamala Prasad Mishra 'Vipra', Shri Maheshwar Prasad, Shri Baldeo Prasad Shriwastwa, Shri Ramvachan Lal, Shri Ramsingar Giri 'Vinod', Shri Ramagyan Pandey, Shri Moti, B A, Shri Rahgir and many others

Bhojpuri Journals

Akhauri Shri Mahendra Kumar Verma of Shahabad district first started '*Bhojpuri*', a weekly journal from Calcutta, whose first issue came to the public on 15th August, 1947 After that Shri Mahendra Shastri had started a quarterly journal from Patna, also named '*Bhojpuri*', the publication had to be stopped due to financial difficulties From 1952, Shri Raghuvansha Narayan Singh started to publish '*Bhojpuri*', a monthly journal from Arrah Shri Singh helped much in the development of Bhojpuri prose and poetry through this journal Quarterly '*Anjur*' from Patna under the editorship of Pandey Shri Narwadeshwar Sahay and fortnightly '*Gaon Ghar*' from Arrah under the editorship of Shri Bhuvaneshwar Prasad Srivastwa 'Bhanu' are two prominent journals of this language

Urdu literature in Shahabad.

Along with Brij Bhasha, Awadhi Maithili and Khari boli, Bihar has had a highly developed Urdu literature and there have always been thousands of Urdu reading people.

The Sultanate of Delhi had set up Persian as the court language and Persian writers and thinkers were greatly encouraged The Persian-knowing elite of Delhi court had almost become a legend for culture, advanced thought and courtesy From Delhi the Persian language spread and Azimabad (Patna City area) became a centre of Persian literature. From Azimabad, it may be said that the current had flown to Biharsharif, Maner Sharif, Arrah, Gaya, Bhagalpur, Saran, Muzaffarpur and other places The contribution of the Muslim *Daraveshes*, poets, and philosophers of Bihar to Persian language has yet to be assessed

The shift of the central power from Delhi again was the patronisation of Urdu which had already become, more or less, the language of the mass even when Persian was the language of the intellectuals It is not necessary here to enter into the origin of Urdu which seems to have been an admirable bond of synthesis

between the Hindus and the Muslims The military sections through their movements had spread Urdu language far and wide. In the course of the Mughal rule several military colonies almost of semi-permanent in character had been set up in different parts of Bihar and particularly on the borders of North Bihar There were also several places in South Bihar particularly Patna Bhagalpur, Monghyr and Sasaram where such colonies were established The colonists merged themselves in the population and were in a way the protagonists of Muslim culture and spread Urdu language. Urdu was not the exclusive language of the Muslims in Bihar Till the first decade of the twentieth century, the Hindu students of Bihar learnt Persian and Urdu. Many of the Hindus have written valuable books in Urdu.

Patna College, the only college in Bihar, for a very long time in the first decade of the 20th century, used to have Urdu and Persian classes overfull while there were hardly any students in Sanskrit classes

From Arrah, the district headquarters, the Urdu language spread to the other subdivisions Sasaram and Koath in Sasaram subdivision quickly became great centres of Urdu language and culture where sizeable libraries of rare Persian and Urdu books were started. At Sasaram an Arabic Madrasa was started affiliated to Madrasa Aalia, Calcutta. The Queen's proclamation in Urdu is still preserved in the library of *Khanquah* Madrasas at Sasaram A number of eminent Urdu and Persian poets of Sasaram distinguished themselves and commanded all-India reputation The affluent families of Shahabad like Dumraon Raj, the Kulharia family, the Bilgramis of Koath, the Surajpura house, the Pathans of Jagdishpur, etc, extended their patronage to Urdu Eminent Urdu scholars, poets and philosophers have come from Shahabad district It will not be possible to mention the names of even the more famous of the Urdu scholars and writers of Shahabad district as there are quite a number of them It may, however, be mentioned that the Bilgrami family who had settled at Koath, a large village in Sasaram subdivision before the Mutiny of 1857 has produced a galaxy of Urdu writers Some of them are Mir Imami Bilgrami, a poet, Syed Farzand Ahmad Safir Bilgrami, a prolific author and a poet, Syed Ghulam Hassain Bilgrami, a scholar in Urdu, Hindi and Sanskrit and a poet who was trained by Sahar Lucknowvi and Ghalib Dehlavi, Syed Mohammad Afsar Bilgrami. Mir Ghulam Hasan Ghulam Bilgrami, Syed Aulad Hyder Bilgrami who compiled fourteen volumes of biography of great men of Islam and a historian

Besides these gentlemen, there were a large number of Urdu writers and poets such as Syed Ali Md. Bilgrami, Maulvi Syed Amir Hassan Badar Arvi, Syed Wali Hyder Gauhar Arvi, Hakim Syed Ruknuddin Dana of Sasaram, Babu Shankar Dayal Fitna. Amongst

the Urdu writers Raja Radhika Raman Prasad Sinha is well versed both in Urdu and Hindi He wrote a number of Hindi and Urdu books Babu Bijoy Kumar Jain, a retired Deputy Magistrate, Manoos of Sasaram, Shah Fazal Imam Waqif, resident of Mahalla Choudhariana, Arrah, Syed Nasrat Hussain, Syed Safir Hussain, Hafiz Imam Ali, Munshi Ram Swarup Zaft of Dehri-on-Sone and Syed Wasi Haider Zaidi Bilgrami are some of the present-day poets and writers

Jain Culture.

The impact of Jain culture on the district of Shahabad is quite marked although the Jain population may not go beyond 1,500 souls The main concentrations are in Arrah, Dalmianagar and other urban areas where the Jains are mostly engaged in trade or professions

Jainism has been a creed in this district from the 6th century A D About twenty images of the *Tirthankaras* Nemi Nath, Rishabha Nath and others, the relic of a *Dharmachakra*, exacavated from Chousa in Buxar subdivision indicate that Jainism was once flourishing here Archaeologists have fixed the period of these images to be from the 6th century A D to the 9th century A D The find of the *Dharmachakra*, originated by the *Tirthankara* Rishabha Nath is the symbol of the spread of Jainism in Shahabad district even before the 6th century A D, as it is undisputed that *Dharmachakra* has been excavated only from those places where Jainism had once its stronghold *

The present existence of the Jains in Shahabad, however, is not traceable to earlier than four hundred years ago There are various images of year 1554 in the Chandra Prabhu *Chaityalaya*, built by Babu Chunni Lal It is clear from the *'Murtilekha'* of *'Mul Nayak Pratima'* of Chandra Prabhu that it was built in Aram Nagar, in *'Sambat'* 1562 *'Baishakha sudi astami'* The front portion of the image has been defaced In the same temple there is a little image of Chandra Prabhu bearing the date of its installation as *Baishakha Sudi tija* 1533, established by Jivaraj Papriwal It seems, it is one of the one lakh images installed by Jivaraj Papriwal in the different parts of India There is also a Jain temple at village Masarh, six miles west of Arrah a place of antiquity which goes back to the time of Harsha Hiuen Tsiang has referred to this place as Mo-no-so lo or Mahasara, which was close to the Ganga at that time. Some Rathor Jains of Marwar settled there in the fourteenth century and an inscribed Jain image bearing the date 1386 A D is still to be found there Babu Sankar Lal of Arrah completed a Jain temple 'Parshanath Mandir' there in *Bikrama Sambat* 1819 and an

* Some of the relics excavated from Chousa have been kept in Patna Museum

inscription reads that the image of Parshanath was dedicated by him, a citizen of Aram Nagar, during the prosperous English rule over *Karusha-desha.*

There are now 44 Jain temples in Arrah and its suburb and one in Dalmianagar There are a few other Jain temples elsewhere.

A brief sketch of some of the well-known Jain temples of Shahabad is given below —

(1) *Shree Samaveda Sikhar Mandir.*—This was dedicated by Shri Har Prasad Das Jain He got erected two palatial buildings in 1902 and employed a highly paid sculptor from Jaipur to reproduce in marble the famous holy places like Pareshnath Hill and the images of 24 *Tirthankars* In the same year he executed a registered deed on the 10th March, making a free gift of the houses to the public along with this temple.

(2) *Shree Bahubali Jain Mandir*—This temple built within the compound of Shree Jain Bala Bishram, Dharma Kunj, Arrah, was dedicated by Shreemati Nem Sunder Devi, wife of Late Babu Dhanendra Das Jain of Arrah The 57-feet high ancient image of Bahubali Swami in Sharawan Bela Gola, in Mysore State, is a unique sight. The first statue of Bahubali in this part of India was first erected in Arrah The statue is 15 feet high and weighs 250 maunds The temple is standing over an artificial mountain amidst beautiful natural surroundings The temple is a specimen of great aesthetic standard and delicate execution

(3) *The Jal Mandir*—This was laid by late Babu Abhay Kumar Jain of Arrah in imitation of Pawapuri near Biharsharif A magnificent image of Mahabir is installed in it

(4) *Nandiswar Dwip Mandir*—This is adjacent to Panchayati Mandir In this temple 52 small *Chaityalayas* have been set up in a very artistic way The construction of Nandiswar Dwip has been set on the basis of Jain-geography. From the point of art religious instinct and minute details this temple also is of great importance.

(5) *Sahasrakut Chaityalaya*—This temple is under the Adinath temple in Dhanupura In this temple, on the same storey are one thousand Jain Arhat images, carved with delicate skill and vision.

(6) *Shree Adinath Mandir*—This was constructed by late Babu Makhan Lal in Dhanupura Images of the gods Adinath, Parshwa Nath and others have been installed

(7) *Panchayati Jain Mandir*—One thousand Jain images have been constructed in one stone-piece Many important relics of Jainism are to be found in the temple

(8) *Chaubishi Jain Mandir.*—This was founded by Late Babu Sukhanand Its importance is due to the fact that all the 24 images of *Tirthankars* are of similar colour as written in Jain Agam.

There are several Jain institutions which are a great credit to the State Some of them are—

Shree Jain Bala Bishram—This institution was founded by Shreemati Chanda Bai Jain in 1921 for education of the girls Jain girls and also girls of other faiths come from vario parts of India to study here From here girls appear at various examinations, viz, Matriculation, Intermediate and Bachelor of Arts as well as for Diplomas in Sanskrit. It has got a big compound with three buildings and two hostels for girls

There are many charitable dispensaries, two *Dharamshalas*, one Jain school and one Jain Degree College managed by the Jains The college has been described separately Jainology is also being spread and popularised by two schemes at a great cost by some Jains One is the Central Jain Publishing House established in 1911 This House has published many valuable books Shri Dev Kumar Jain *Granthamala* has published an excellent series of books and has some translations of books in other Indian languages There is another Publishing House that has translated Jain books in South Indian languages into Hindi

The Central Jain Oriental Library

Sponsored in 1903 by Shri Dev Kumar Jain as Jain Dharma Pustakalaya, the name was changed in 1908 after the death of the founder The nucleus was a collection of manuscripts by Pandit Parbhu Das Jain, the grandfather of the founder Sri Dev Kumar Jain personally travelled throughout India and spent a fortune in collecting old literatures, manuscripts, paintings and other relics on Jainology The library is now located in its own building The library has now got a large number of extremely scarce books in various Indian languages.

The library has at present about 10,000 printed books in several Indian languages as Prakrit, Sanskrit, Hindi, Marathi, Gujarati, Kannadi, Tamil and Telugu, and 3,250 English books. Besides these

the library has about 8,000 manuscripts on palm leaves, paper and tree-bark, collection of old coins, postage stamps, match levels, drawings, unique playing cards and various other relics.

It has an attached research centre known as the Jain Siddhant Bhawan The library is very well equipped for study and research in Jainology. Scholars from all over India and beyond have visited the library for research

Religion and Caste

According to the Census of 1961 the total population of the district is 32,18,017 (males 16,16,732, females 16,01,285) The break-up religionwise figures are as follows —

—	Males.	Females	Total
Hindus	15,05,679	14,85,541	29,91,220
Muslims	1,08,308	1,13,171	2,21,479
Christians	1,146	1,069	2,215
Sikhs	1,067	924	1,991
Jains	513	573	1,086
Buddhists	16	7	23

According to the Census of 1961, the population of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes are as follows* —

—	Males	Females	Total	Percentage of the total population
1 Scheduled Castes	2,54,785	2,60,262	5,15,047	16.01
2 Scheduled Tribes	11,248	10,926	22,174	0.69
3 Backward Classes			3,15,762	5.035

The bulk of the Scheduled Castes, Tribes and Backward Classes are Hindus

The Muslims who form the next largest group are scattered all over the district although there are certain Muslim pockets. Sasaram town, Arrah town and a number of villages in Bhabhua subdivision have got a large number of Muslims There are some

* These figures have been collected from the office of the Census Superintendent, Patna The figures have not yet been published in a book form (P. C. R. O.)

very old Muslim families in Arrah, Sasaram, Koath, Jagdishpur and other villages. It is understood that some of the old Rajput families had been converted There are a number of Pathan Muslim families Converted Muhammadans are not uncommon in several villages in Chainpur thana A number of Pathan families who claim to have descended from the members of the household of Hasan Sur Shah and Sher Shah are found in Sasaram. There were Muhammadans in Sasaram from earlier days, and the ancestors of the Sajjada-nashin families were *fakirs* there at a much earlier time. The leading Muhammadan families were, however, immigrants of a comparatively recent date The Choudhuris of Arrah were said to have settled there in the time of Firoz Shah Some families had come to Shahabad at a later time, as, after the fall of Delhi in 1759 a few of the Muslim nobility attached to the Mughal court retired with their followers to the *Jagirs* they held in this district * Normally any village with some Muslim families has a mosque

The Census of 1961 records 1,991 Sikhs in the district The majority of the Sikhs in the rural areas reside in Sasaram sub-division and are mostly engaged in various types of trade and commerce The Sikhs have been described in details elsewhere This is one of the two areas in this State where Sikhs have been residents for centuries, the other pocket being near Karhagola in Purnea district There are a few rich and respectable Jain families in the district Jainism has had its hold in the district from very old times as some of the Jain antiquities in this district indicate The Jains have also been described separately The majority of the Jains belong to the Marwari community and are engaged in trade and commerce The Christians have been recorded at the small figure of 2,215 in the 1961 Census According to the Christian missionaries, this figure is an under estimate The majority of them are residing in Arrah and Dumraon police stations The Christian Missions have been treated separately

Castes

There has been no castewise enumeration in the Censuses of 1951 and 1961. Probably this was not done with a view to discourage caste-consciousness, but the hold of the caste on Indian life is so deep that for various academic purposes castewise figures are interesting study particularly because of the impact of modern trends of education and industrialisation on the rigours of the caste system It is also interesting to trace the trends of changes in occupations which followed castes and *vice versa* before The position of caste in the present urbanisation and industrialisation of the district is also an interesting study for which castewise figures in the towns are of interest Castes have certainly not become extinct

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* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), pages 41 42

from the district and still continue to be a strong social and political force The traditional division of occupations or functions according to caste has, however, been in the melting pot. A potter's son or a cobbler's son does not usually follow the traditional caste-function Untouchability is loosing its hold more by social education than by law The liquidation of untouchability is a very slow process Caste-consciousness is both an evil and a benefit In political issues, unfortunately caste-consciousness breaks out in an ugly form and becomes aggressive This trend has been noticed in both the General Elections of 1957 and 1962 Caste-consciousness may lead to a stratification and this base may be helpful for improving the position in a healthy manner but such attempts are rare *

The last castewise enumeration was done in 1931 Census In 1941 Census, owing to war exigency this along with the compilation of some other tables were omitted As mentioned before castewise enumeration was deliberately dropped in 1951 and 1961 Censuses

A brief note on the principal castes will be of interest to show the particular occupational or functional role which some of these castes still play

Brahman—Brahmans are very prominent in Dumraon thana Their hereditary occupation is priesthood, but owing to the changes in the economic trends, many of them have taken to cultivation as a means of livelihood while the number of service-holders among the Brahmans is also not negligible In this district we find a large number of Kanaujia and Sakaldwipi Brahmans The Kanaujias are subdivided into Kanaujia proper and Saryupari or Sarvaria The Saryupari are considered to be of an inferior status because they accept alms But, nevertheless, many of them have still strict scruples regarding ceremonial purity, food and drink and social habits There are also some prominent Brahman families scattered all over the district

Rajput—The Rajputs, who are numerous are perhaps the most interesting of all the castes found in this district, they are found in larger number here than in any other district in Bihar, except Saran, and are largely the descendants of the early conquerors of Shahabad There seems no doubt that Rajputs from Ujjain in Malwa overcame the Cheros, who had established their rule after the downfall of the Gupta dynasty Raja Bhoj is credited with having subdued them over a large part of the country and having brought the *pargana* of Bhojpur under his control, and the family records of the Rajas of the Harihobans clan, who formerly ruled at Bihea, notice a conflict between their chiefs and the Cheros

* The Subdivisional Magistrate of Sasaram thinks that unfortunately the district, specially South Shahabad (Sasaram and Bhabua subdivisions) is suffering from an acute sense of the so called forward feeling on the basis of castes and this has been accentuated after the recent general election

which lasted for hundreds of years and finally terminated in favour of the Rajputs. The Maharaja of Dumraon is of the line of the Ujjain Rajputs, and a number of the ex-zamindars in this district belong to the same sub-caste and are descendants of the immigrant Rajputs who conquered the Cheros Shorty after the Muhammadan invasion three Ujjain *Sardars* were frequently mentioned in the district annals, viz, those of Jagdishpur, Dumraon and Buxar, and for a long time they continued as the chiefs of small principalities Small or large they carried with them a tremendous aristocracy and prestige. Another sub-caste is the Raj Kuar, to which belonged the family of the former Hindu Rajas of Champur, whose descendants have now for several generations resided at Bhagwanpur, south of Bhabhua There are many other sub castes of Rajputs, all of whom appear to have migrated from the north-west

The Rajputs of Shahabad contributed a large portion to the East India Company's forces and supplied some of its best soldiers to the sepoy army It is well known that the Rajputs of this district formed the bulk of Kuar Singh's force In the district itself they are usually land-owners and cultivators, and in many cases occupy whole villages * The Rajputs have a martial bearing and have no hesitation to go far from the home village for a suitable job With a fine manly physique, urbane manners and a sense of discipline, they make good administration fine soldiers or police constables English education has brought out their innate qualities to grasp higher education and many of the Rajputs of this district have contributed to the very best elements of various services and professions Their traditionalism and love of the past are assets if properly guided Many of the Rajput families carved out large zamindaris for themselves It is said they are clannish but no special attitude survey was made

Nishan Singh, Commander of Kuar Singh came of village Baldi, 10 miles south-east of Sasaram He was blown off by cannon at Gaurakshani *muhalla* of Sasaram when he was caught It may be mentioned here that the rich aristocracy and prestige of the Rajputs have prompted other groups to upgrade themselves and claim to be Rajputs The Kharwars and the Cheros who carved out small or big principalities for themselves started their claim for being Rajputs since the last century They have managed to strike marital alliance with pure Rajputs of poorer means as a proof to their claim

This tendency is a remarkable socio-political factor Any one who could carve out a zone for him and keep a few smaller satellite zamindars would call him a Rajput and claim descent from some well established Rajput family Some of the Rajput families in this district have been philanthropists and have taken active part in

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), pages 46-47.

educational, social or political work The families of the Maharaja of Dumraon, Kulharia, Darigaon, Garh Nokha, etc, have done a lot of welfare work for the district One of the earliest Congressmen of Bihar who had attended the second Indian National Congress was a Rajput of Kulharia family Another Rajput zamindar Shri Shatrunjay Prasad Singh was a great revivalist of music and dance One of the ex-Chief Justices of the Supreme Court was a Rajput of this district Many educated Rajputs of this district have fully justified their appointment in very high government services

Babhan or Bhumihar—Bhumihar Brahmans now rank at the same level as the two castes just mentioned and are one of the most important castes in the district Various traditions as to their origin are current One is to the effect that they are descended from Brahmans who took to agricultural pursuits, and one of the titles they claim is Zamindar Brahman. Another local legend declares that they were originally drummers to Ravana, king of Lanka They are speculative, shrewd, polished in manner, talk and behaviour Many of them have taken up professions like law, medicine, etc, besides cultivation and business. Quite a few of them have had large zamindaris particularly in Bhabhua subdivision They make astute administrators and diplomats

Brahmanical titles such as Misr, Panre and Tewari are used along with Rajput titles of Singh, Rai and Thakur Like the Rajputs they are usually land-owners and cultivators and like them they are fairly prosperous

Kayastha—Although it may not be very correct to state now that the Kayasthas only form the brain trust of the district, there can be no denial that at one time most of the service-holders were recruited from this community They were the first to imbibe western education under the British rule Usually the better classes of the Kayasthas invariably go in for schooling, and, for generations, have been in the forefront in the leading professions as well. There are only a few Kayasthas who actually till the field by themselves Most of them normally employ ploughmen Among the Kayasthas there are sub-castes also Inter-marriages among the sub-castes are becoming common. The incidence of literacy among them is very high The incidence of education among Kayastha girls is higher than that of the girls of other castes Some of the Kayasthas of this district have taken active part in politics and public life and have occupied many high positions in Bar and other professions and in Government services.

Incidentally, the Kayasthas of this district have taken a prominent part in social reforms. The Tilouthu and Surajpura families for various outstanding contributions need special mention. The families have produced writers, philosophers and administrators

besides politicians The Kayasthas only about four decades back were rather opposed to women's emancipation, although the males formed the bulk of the literate classes It may be mentioned that the Kayasthas of this district used to take a prominent part in the Kayastha conferences from the year 1887 In the year 1887 the Kayastha conference at Lucknow was presided over by Sri Jai Prakash Lal, C I E, the Diwan of Dumraon Raj Dr Sachidanand Sinha of Arrah and Patna was elected the President of the Kayastha conference held at Delhi in 1929 Dr Sinha was one of the foremost politicians of Bihar and was the President of the Constituent Assembly He was the Vice Chancellor of the Patna University for a number of years, a prominent advocate and a writer of eminence He was also an Executive Councillor for a long time Several sessions of the Kayastha Conferences were held in different parts of Bihar and at each of them a large number of delegates from Shahabad district had attended The Conference in 1927 at Daltonganj presided over by Sir P. C Roy was particularly attended by a large number of Kayasthas from Shahabad district

Goala—Goalas are also known as Ahirs and Gopes They are practically found all over the district Their hereditary occupation is that of herdsmen and milkmen, but with this they combine cultivation A large number of them have given up pastoral pursuits altogether and are only tillers of the soil The number of Goala cultivators is quite large and a good percentage are substantial cultivators. The incidence of literacy is not so high in them but some of them who are educated have taken up other professions also They predominate in Arrah thanas It may be mentioned here that the Goalas of Shahabad district are divided into four sub castes, Majraut, Kishnaut, Gorra and Kananjia The Kishnauts prefer a claim of precedence over others on the tradition that Lord Krishna was born in their sub-caste. The Goalas have become very caste-conscious now and have a strong unity among them which is often seen canalised in election fights The Bir Kuar deity has been discussed elsewhere

Koeri and Kurmi -The Koeris are skilful and industrious cultivators, who are the best agriculturists to be found in the district They are a purely agricultural caste They are also excellent horticulturists. Kurmis are also hardworking and good cultivators in the district. Both these castes form the backbone of the agricultural economy of the district but the Kurmis are more educated and some of them have taken up various types of professions like law, medicine, business, etc The Koeris and Kurmis have taken full advantage of their enlistment in the Backward classes and have a strong community feeling They have also started going in for services and professions The educated boys of these communities do not turn to agricultural pursuits as a rule

Bania.—As a class Banias are mostly shopkeepers and traders and some of them also carry on money-lending business. This class has not been very much affected by the recent economic trends and continues to be among the moneyed sections. Hemu, Commander-in-Chief of Sher Shah was a Bania. In Sasaram town, Nasriganj and Chenari they have got a sizeable population.

Barhi.—This community is evenly distributed all over the district. The Barhis are by profession artisans and they generally make agricultural implements for the villagers, and are paid in the villages both in cash and kind. The Barhis in the towns have a busy time in making furniture and other carpentry work. The urbanisation trends have been a windfall for them.

Chamar.—The Chamars are notified as Scheduled Caste and besides the traditional profession of making footwear, they also follow cultivation. The services of the women-folk are frequently requisitioned as midwife although they are not trained and follow crude methods. They are now quite progressive and if given opportunity they could equal any other community in any work. The incidence of education is low. An educated person of this community had been a prominent Central Minister for a long time. The S. D. O. of Sasaram reports that this caste has now got a bitter attitude towards the so-called high castes. Their Caste-*Panchayat* is very strong and literacy is increasing.

Dhanuk and Kahar.—Dhanuks and Kahars both belong to the Backward Classes and are largely recruited as domestic servants. Both used to be employed as palanquin bearers but palanquins have become rare now. With the advancement of time and as a result of caste-consciousness they have now adopted various professions. Some of them are quite good cultivators and a few of them have gone to big cities like Calcutta and other places for their livelihood. The hold of caste-occupation on these communities is definitely dwindling.

Dhobi.—Dhobis are the washermen and belong to both Hindu and Muslim communities. In the rural areas the Dhobis are still paid in kind or are allotted fixed bundles of crops during the time of harvest. In the urban areas they are paid in cash. Hindu Dhobis have been classified as Scheduled Caste while Muslim Dhobis have been put under the Backward Classes. The incidence of literacy is low but the literate and educated among them are turning to professions other than the caste-occupations. They are extremely caste-conscious and their Caste-*Panchayats* are very strong.

Dom.—They are included in the Scheduled Castes under the Constitution. There are two types of Doms in the district known as Doms and Magahiya Doms. They have strong physique and they are capable of hard work. They rear pigs for their living and also make and sell bamboo-wares such as baskets and fans, etc.

Previously a number of them followed anti-social practices and often got into prison. They are scattered all over the district The Doms are trying to improve their position in society and have now been sending their children to schools, if possible. A development of piggery scheme will give them better employment chances

Dosadh –They have been classified as Scheduled Caste under the Constitution They are scattered throughout the district They have practically monopolised the duties of the post of *Chowkidars* or village watchman in the district, some are also cultivators and the rest are labourers They also rear pigs Their women supplement the income of the family by working as labourers Dosadh cooks are sought after Dosadhs have also been receiving schooling The Dosadhs have started taking up various kinds of services suited to their education Some of them are professional cooks. Some of them make a living by making ham and bacon in crude methods A developed piggery scheme will be a great benefit to them

Hajam –The Hajams are now included in the Constitution under Backward Classes and are also known as *Nai* and *Thakur* They have earned the reputation of being too clever Their chief occupation is hair-dressing but some are also good cultivators and rear cattle Some village Hajams practise a rude form of unscientific surgery Their women supplement the income of the family by dressing and anointing the feet of the females of other castes and communities with *alta* (dye) They sell their services at a high fee now.

Teli –Telis have a monopoly of pressing oil out of oilseeds and selling oil This has been their traditional occupation for generations Some of them have taken to business and money-lending Their Caste–*Panchayats* are very strong

Kandu –They are distributed throughout the district They are the class who prepare parched rice known as *chura, murhi*, etc The original caste occupation is not always followed now

Kumhar –In almost all the villages and towns this caste is found They are mainly potters and prepare earthenwares, tiles, etc Their other occupation is building of mud walls They sell their wages for laying bricks or thatch houses, etc Some of them are also good cultivators

Mali – They have been classified as Backward Class under the Constitution. Previously they were employed as inoculators but now their importance as such is on the wane. They are gardeners and sell the flowers and work in the gardens, etc They make out various types of decorations and ornaments out of flower during the marriage ceremony of a boy With the decline in the economic incidence their work as *malakars* is now on the decline The incidence of literacy is not high.

Musahar.—They are a notified Scheduled Caste and their number in the district is not insignificant. Most of them are without land and they are agricultural labourers. They are very eclectic in their food and relish even rats and snails Attempts are being made to educate them Drinking and gambling are their common recreation. Child marriage, widow re-marriage and divorce are common among them The Mushars are quite willing to take up other occupations if they get

Pasi.—They have been included in the Constitution under Scheduled Castes and their chief occupation is the sale of the fermented juice of the *tal* and *khajur* trees They are physically strong and can work hard A few of them are agricultural labourers and good cultivators. They are scattered throughout the district. The incidence of literacy is not high

Nonia—This caste supplies labourers and cultivators. Originally they used to scour salt out of the earth and that gave the name. Literacy is low. This caste has given several veteran criminals of South Shahabad

Jolaha—Among the Muhammadans the weaver caste, Jolaha, is the most numerous They weave cloth and some of them are engaged in agriculture Weaving is the main cottage industry of the district They have upgraded themselves by education and look down upon the word 'Jolaha' as a contemptuous term and prefer to be called Ansaris They have shown a great adaptability to new designs and craftmanship in textile goods Not only do they form a very progressive and useful element in the society but they are politically a well-knit body They were backward in education but are now coming up An educated person of Ansari community has been in the Congress for decades and has held high position in the organisation and the Government

Among the Muslims we find Pathan, Syed, Shaikh and others. Besides these four well-known classes, the following Muslim sections are also found in the district —

> ***Dhunia*** (cotton-carder), Dhobi (washerman), Darzi (tailor), Fakir (Muhammadan mendicant), Kasai (butcher), Nalband (farrier), Pamaria (singer) Nat, Rangrez (dyer) and several others

SCHEDULED TRIBES *

The Adivasis who are classed as the Scheduled Tribes are mostly found in the Sasaram and Bhabhua subdivisions of the district.

* Reliable thanawise or villagewise figures of the Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes or the Backward Classes are not available either in the District Magistrate's office or in the Welfare Department. Prolonged correspondence failed to procure them (P. C. R O)

The census figures for 1941, 1951 and 1961 showing the number of Scheduled Tribe people are given below:—

Census of—	Total population of the district	Total population of the Scheduled Tribes.	Percentage of the Scheduled Tribes
1941	23,28,581	17,558	75
1951	26,88,440	16,993	63
1961	32 18,017	22 174	69

It was gathered that in the pre-independence days the people of the lower castes and those belonging to the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes wanted to raise their social status by getting themselves enumerated as belonging to the higher caste Hindus but now the trend is otherwise The reasons are that the welfare programmes have made special provisions for their welfare, education, etc, and in order to get the benefits they are trying to get themselves enumerated as belonging to the *Harijans* or Scheduled Castes, Tribes or Backward Classes There has also been a movement to bring the Scheduled Castes, Tribes and Backward Classes together as a political unit to fight the elections.

The Scheduled Tribes were classified and enumerated tribe-wise in the census held up to 1941, but they have not been enumerated in this manner in the censuses held in 1951 and 1961 and so the present strength of each of these tribes in this district cannot be given The figures for 1941 give a good idea about their comparative strength According to 1941 Census the population of the tribes was as follows.—

Name of tribes	No of persons	Percentage with reference to total tribal population
Kharwar	9,410	53 60
Oraon	3,708	21 07
Munda	2,426	13 81
Chero	1,185	6 74
Agaria	429	2 45
Santal	296	1 63
Gorait	83	0 47
Bhogta	12	Negligible.
Ho	7	Negligible.
Mahlik	2	Negligible.
Total	17,558	

The Oraons.

The Oraons are found in all the four subdivisions of Shahabad district, i.e., Arrah, Buxar, Sasaram and Bhabua. Their actual total population in the district is not known. The information in Rohtas and Adhaura Blocks is that they are about 2,104 in number only in the said two blocks.

An investigation was made into the conditions of the Oraons at villages Nagatoli, Budhua, Koriari and Aamdih in Sasaram subdivision and villages Dahar, Lohra, Sarodag, Sorha and Sarki in Bhabua subdivision.

W. W. Hunter mentions about them as follows:—

> "They are a hardworking race, and as a rule do not hold land. They affirm themselves that they were long settled on Rohtas and the adjoining hills, whence they were driven by the Muhammadans. But as they also assert that they were in Chutia Nagpur prior to the birth of Phani Mukuta Rai, the first Nagbansi Raja, they must have been under the sway of that dynasty before Muhammad was born. According to their own account, after they had been expelled from Rohtas, they divided into two parties: one of which migrated to Rajmahal, while the other proceeded up the Son into Palamau, and so along the valley of the Koel into their present seat."*

On enquiry from Jokhu Oraon, the *mukhiya* of Koriari Gram Panchayat, and others it was ascertained they think that they had migrated from this place to Chotanagpur and again from Chotanagpur they have come about 200 years back. They are now completely detached from Chotanagpur. The marriages usually take place in this area and for this purpose they do not go to Chotanagpur. They settled here as agricultural labourers. They are also called *Dhangars* by the non-aboriginals.

The Oraons as a group occupy a contiguous territory and speak a common dialect, i.e., *Kurukh* among themselves and *Bhojpuri* with others. They have good relationship with the non-aboriginal inhabitants in the villages. They are divided in several classes. Their *Killies* or septs usually bear the name of the animals. The family is patriarchal and the father is the head of the family.

The initiative for a marriage is taken from the boy's side. The marriage ceremony is performed at the residence of the bride. Polygamy and widow marriage are known. Ordinarily the children are named after the day on which they are born. Sometimes the names of some relative or ancestor are fixed.

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* *A Statistical Account of Bengal*, 1877, Vol. XII, page 191.

Regarding funerals it was observed that the dead bodies are burnt. After the body has been consumed, five bits of bone from the hands, ribs, and thighs are collected and put in an earthen vessel and kept at the place where the body was burnt. The dead body of a pregnant woman or of a woman who dies after a few days of the birth of the child is subjected to a peculiar treatment. Thorns are pushed in her feet and the eye-lids are sewn and the dead body is carried to a distant place for the burial. It is believed that the spirit of the person who dies like that turns into a malevolent spirit and harasses the members of the family. Shukra Oraon, a resident of Budhua village, informed that his wife had died after a few days of the issue of the child. He believes that she harassed them badly and holds her responsible for the death of his child. They believe in ancestor worship and are afraid of the malevolent spirits. But now they usually do not take any outbreak of disease as the working of a malevolent spirit though they are scared of witchcraft.

Their most important festivals are the *Karma*, *Jitia*, *Sohrai* and *Deothan*. They also participate in *Dashara* festival of the Hindus as observer. The day on which the *Karma* is celebrated has its unique importance and they enjoy the day in group dancing and group singing. Some of the festivals have been adopted due to the impact of the Hindus.

Due to the impact of urbanisation and development in communication, remarkable social changes have taken place among the Oraons. There is not so much change in the food habit excepting that they now take rice. They eat pigs, goats' meat, eggs, chickens and other birds. They have now started to participate in the festivals of the Hindus.

The Oraons in the district do not have any dormitory. In the dormitory in Ranchi district the young unmarried boys and girls sleep separately and get ample opportunities of mixing with each other. Jokhu Oraon of village Korrar who is also the *Mukhiya* gave out that there is no dormitory and that they discourage this system. The Oraons here do not drink *Handia*. They drink liquor. On enquiry as to why they do not take, it was ascertained that *Handia* is prepared with fermented rice and a kind of herb. The herb is not found in their areas and hence they do not prepare it.

The Oraons are very hardworking people. They are essentially community minded and the whole village will turn out to cultivate another man's land, if necessary.

The women take part in the agricultural operations including heavy manual work. Again it is to be noted that generally the Oraons in other districts do not like to rear cattle (cows and buffaloes) but in the villages it was seen that many Oraons rear cattle, and sell milk and *ghee*. The economic condition, the incidence of literacy and education among the Oraons are very poor.

They are educationally so backward because like Chotanagpur, they have not been influenced by the Christian Missionaries It is surprising that the Christian Missionaries did not open their missions in the Kaimur range

Welfare Facilities

These people being very poor had to procure seeds and money on credit at an exorbitant rates of compound interest from the village *mahajans* located on plain level These debts were realised at the time of harvesting, leaving very little for the poor people for future use Thus poverty remained a permanent feature of their lives To help them, grain-*golas* have been established which supply seeds at 25 per cent rate of interest for the first year and thereafter at 6¼ per cent compound interest for each succeeding year Of the villages studied two grain-*golas* located at villages Saraiya and Nagatoli in Rohtas block, three at villages Adhaura, Daher and Behera in Adhaura block and one at Bhagwanpur village in Bhagwanpur block have been established to help the tribals During 1962-63, agricultural subsidy of Rs 750 was granted to 15 tribals in Rohtas block, Rs 1,145 to 18 persons in Adhaura block and Rs 951 to 13 persons in Bhagwanpur block These subsidies were meant for purchase of bullocks, manures and seeds

Arrangements had been made to encourage education among the boys of the Scheduled Tribes by giving them stipends exemption from school fees and book-grants Free hostel accommodation has been provided in residential schools as discussed elsewhere

Welfare programmes among the tribals should be in keeping with their culture complex, traditions and background They need specific methods of approach It has been realised that the best people to do this are those who have special aptitude and devotion for the social service Attempts hitherto taken to settle the tribals on the plain by providing them free houses and other facilities have proved futile because of a somewhat the lack of understanding of the block personnel and of not understanding fully the reaction of the tribals to such schemes The appraisal reports of some of the tribal blocks have been incorporated elsewhere

The Kharwars

There are Kharwars another tribal in Sasaram and Bhabua subdivisions in Shahabad district They are generally found in the western part of the district on Kaimur hills, i e, in Rohtas, Sasaram and Adhaura police-stations An investigation was made into the conditions of the Kharwars at villages Koriari, Aamdih, Kachuar and Budhua under Rohtas Development Block and villages Dahar, Lohra, Sarodag, Sarki, and Sorha under Adhaura block The origin of the Kharwars is obscure and it is not known from where they have migrated to Shahabad. The actual total population of this

community is not known but the investigation made in Rohtas and Adhaura blocks give us an idea that they are about 7,463 in Adhaura block and 962 in Rohtas block.

The legendary history of the Kharwars indicates that in the olden days they were the rulers of Rohtas *garh*, the great fort in the south of this district Mr. Montgomery Martin who had summarised Buchanan Hamilton's report of Shahabad mentions—

> "In Shahabad district great confusion prevails concerning the Kharwars or Kharowars, because in different places they have in very different degrees adopted the rules of Hindu purity, and have therefore been placed in very different situations of life, some of them are mere labourers, intermixed with various other tribes, and live by agriculture and carrying the palanquin, others have very considerable estates, and rule many Brahmans and Rajputs, while some occupy the table-land almost totally unmixed with any other tribe, and there is little reason to doubt, but that they are its original inhabitants These have retained the features, by which the aboriginal tribes of the Vindhyan mountains are distinguished, just as entirely as the inhabitants of the Rajmahal hills, although, the whole, both of this district and of Ramgar, speak an old or corrupted dialect of the Hindi language Some of the principal men among the highlanders of this district have been induced to live a pure life, but by far the greater part eats buffaloes, pork and fowls, and it was assured by Banakhandi Singh, a very intelligent person who had more influence over them than any person in the low country and who is thoroughly acquainted with their manners that once in three years a great sacrifice is made at which an animal of the ox kind, a hog, and a fowl are offered

> "These highlanders call themselves Suryabangsis or descendants of the Sun, and as their hills would at one time appear to have been the residence of Rohitaswa, a prince descended of Surya their claim has some shadow of support, but notwithstanding it appears exactly on a footing with that of the Bhungihars of the family of the Sun were of foreign extraction It would, however, appear that a great part of the country immediately south and west from their hills, has for ages been the property of persons belonging to this tribe, although it has not there had the exclusive occupancy of the soil The unmixed Kharowars, who

occupy the table-land amount to 770 houses, and those, who occupy the plains intermixed with other labourers, to about 2,230 houses"*

Regarding religion, beliefs, rituals, customs and marriages, Edward Tuite Dalton in his book "Descriptive Ethnology of Bengal" published in 1872 (pages 125 to 131) mentioned that Kharwars observed like the Kols the triennial sacrifices Every three years a buffalo and other animals were offered in the sacred grove "Sarna" or on a rock near the village They also had the priest for each village called *Pahan* The other priest was known as the Baiga. No Brahmanical priests were allowed on any occasions The deity honoured was the tutelary god of the village called *Duar Pahar*

When W W Hunter wrote his *Statistical Account of Bengal* he did not find much change in the Kharwars He mentions.—

"Kharwars number 5,673 principally found in the Bhabua subdivision They themselves say that their original seat was Rohtas—so named from its having been the abode of Rohitaswa, son of king Harish Chandra, of the family of the Sun They call themselves Suryabansi, and wear the *paita* or caste string Another tradition is that they are a mixed race, who originated during the time of Raja Ben, who gave orders that all men might wed women of any caste or country the Kharwars being the offspring of the union of a Kshattriya father with a Bharni woman of aboriginal descent In different places they have adopted the rules of Hindu purity in every degrees Colonel Dalton considers that their physiognomy shows them to be of pure Turanian descent, and not improbably connected with the Kiratas, who call themselves by a somewhat similar name, Kerawa, and who like the Kharwars have a subdivision called Marhi The Cheros and Kharwars both observe triennial sacrifices Every third year a buffalo with other animals is slaughtered in the sacred grove called *Sarna*, or on a rock near the village They also, like some of the Kols, have a priest in each village, called *pahan*, or *baiga*, who always belongs to one of the impure castes; and Colonel Dalton observes that *pahan* alone can offer the triennial sacrifices at which no Brahminical priests are allowed to interfere His priestly functions in other matters however, are fast being usurped by the Brahmans from the plains The Kharwars are

* *The History, Antiquities, Topography and Statistics of Eastern India*, by Montgomery Martin, published in London in February, 1838, Vol I, pages 492 493

> divided into four tribes Bhogta, Manjhi, Raut and Mahato. They generally follow the Hindu observances in marriages, and in their disposal of the dead."*

The only remarkable change was the penetration of the Brahmin priests which was probably a mark of more Hinduisation This Hinduisation had received an impetus in Palamau and other districts also where there were Kharwars The Kharwars took pride being a ruling class and married Rajput girls and claim themselves to be Rajputs. It may be observed that the emergence of the Rajputs as a caste is a later phenomena The claim of being a Rajput was synonymous of being a chieftain, whoever could carve out a little area for himself called himself a Rajput The Kharwars held portions of Shahabad district as the ruling power In Palamau district also they held some principalities No wonder, they upgraded themselves in the caste-hierarchy and classified them as Rajputs This was done without any regard to what others thought A Kharwar even in 1918 would have demurred if he was told that Mr. H D Christian in his Settlement Report had dubbed the Kharwars as the purest aborigines to be found unmixed with any other tribe

When the last *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* was written in 1924 it was observed "they have now to a certain extent become Hinduised, claim to be Rajputs, and generally wear the sacred thread. They do not drink intoxicating liquors or eat beef, but pork is not forbidden food to them"† This pork is not the meat of the tame pigs but of the wild boar

Changing Scene.

Due to impact of urbanisation and contact with the Hindus, there have been changes in their outlook They now rank among Hindus and employ Brahmans which they did not do before. On an enquiry from Daso Baiga of village Adhaura and Hisab Singh Baiga of Karhuar village, it was ascertained that the Kharwars now refuse to be called as tribal people and rather resent to be called as such They always call themselves to be the offshoots of Suryabansi Rajputs.

A few years back the males used to wear *Kasti* (dress of the upper part of the body) and the females *bukni* (dress for the lower part of the body) But now the males wear *dhoti*, shirt, *kurta*, *lungi*, *paijama*, *ganji* and trousers like any other section. The females mostly wear the old dress but some of them who are financially better off wear *sari*, *jhula*, under-garments, etc The females generally wear coloured *saris*.

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* *A Statistical Account of Bengal* (1877), Vol *XII*, pages 189-190. Also see H. H. Risley's *The Tribes and Castes of Bengal*, Vol *I*, 1891, pages 472—476.

† *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), page 49.

As regards ornaments they wear *bali* (ornaments for the ear), *hankha* (ornaments for the hand) and *kara* (ornaments for foot) iilver jewellery of modern fashion have also come into use

The Kharwars now eat goats' meat, fowls, eggs, fish and all 'dible roots They do not eat beef or mutton Their principal ood in Shahabad district is maize, *marua* and *mahua*. Given these hree articles, they want nothing more, and do not depend on rice The Kharwars wear sacred thread (*janau*) and some of them also hink liquor as reported by Daso Baiga of village Adhaura

They speak *Bhojpuri* and they have no tribal dialect of their)wn The title is "Singh" On enquiry from the Kharwars in Adhaura and Rohtas blocks, it was found that the rites observed at irth are all the rites followed by the Hindus The Kharwars also ollow the Hindu practices in marriages and in the disposal of the lead Infant marriages are not practised The bridegroom must e of the age of 12 or 14 years and able to plough and the girl should e of the same age A Brahmin priest functions in the marriages A widow may re-marry in the *sagai* form About two maunds of rice nd also a goat and a *sari* have to be given for her If the husband nd the wife fail to agree, they may leave each other by mutual onsent This appears to be a remnant of the past tradition

After the burning of the dead body five bones of the deceased re collected and placed in an earthen pot which is buried under *pipul* tree The person who had put fire to the mouth of the eceased is called *ag deoa* For ten days he places some rice, milk, nd a little water in an earthen cup (*dona*) together with a lighted *chirag* on the spot where the bones are buried On the lapse of ten ays the *kantaha* or *Maha* Braman goes to the bank of the nearest iver, and after placing some milk, *jao*, *til*, *gur* and *arwa* rice in ten eaf plates performs *puja* for satisfying the spirit of the deceased A community feast follows

The Kharwars do not indulge in dancing as an amusement as is observed among the Kols and Oraons

As regards village organisation, it may be noted that they have oth Caste Panchayat and the Statutory Gram Panchayat They always ake part in the meeting of the panchayat and Block Development ommittee In Caste Panchayat the *Baiga* and *Gouhan* are the eads and the duty of *Gouhan* is to settle the disputes If any atter is referred to Gram Panchayat for decision, the *Baiga* and *ouhan* attend the meeting of the State Gram Panchayat as the 'presentatives of Kharwars

Regarding triennial sacrifices an enquiry was made from Daso aiga of village Adhaura and was ascertained that the practice is ill in vogue but in a refined form The Kharwars (*Baiga*) cut the ft ear of the buffalo in every three years instead of completely crificing the animal.

The incidence of literacy is extremely low though there has been a slight improvement It was ascribed mostly to the absence of educational institutions and poverty of the Kharwars Recently the Community Development Block have started one lower primary school each in villages Koriari, Nagatoli, Kachuar, Budhua, Aamdih under Rohtas Block and villages Sarodag, Lohra, Dahar and Sarki Besides, residential schools have also been started at villages Nagatoli and Budhua in Rohtas block

It may be mentioned that there are some Kharwars in Chenari Block also between Shergarh and Guptadham in the hilly and forest areas One Laxmi Singh of Guptadham calls himself a Raja and appropriates a portion of the offerings inside the cave at Guptadham The Kharwars of this area also claim themselves as Suryabanshi Kshatriyas and have Brahman *gurus* and priests They speak Bhojpuri and have relationship with poorer Rajput families

Importance of Baiga

The *Baiga* has the same importance among the Kharwars as before Among the Kharwars and Cheros there is a headman and priest (*Baiga*) to each village, both the offices being often vested in the same man Though the Kharwars and Cheros invite the Brahmans in social functions, still they must have the *Baiga* for the agricultural operations It is the *Baiga* who inaugurates for each Kharwar the work of sowing or reaping or of transplanting paddy seedlings The crops cannot be removed from the threshing floor until the *Baiga* has propitiated the deities at that place He determines the auspicious day for cutting wood to be burnt for manure He has been holding some lands which he got during *zamindari* days as *jagir* He was entitled to cut a bundle of paddy from each *raiyats'* field but now it is not so The office of the *Baiga* is hereditary, and the sacrificial 'knife', the emblem of the office, is passed on from father to son

Regarding the said practice Daso Baiga of Adhaura village and Ram Nath Baiga of village Koriari were contacted during the investigation It was ascertained that during the agricultural operations in the months of May-June *chair* puja is celebrated by the Kharwars or Cheros On the occasion, the *Baiga* sacrifices the he goat with his hand and first and foremost gives manures in his field and then after the other Kharwars or Cheros do such practice The *Baiga* is given 10 seers of paddy seed per *bigha*

The *Baiga* has also to do some function during the marriage among the Kharwars or Cheros. He sets up the *marwa* or marriage canopy built of bamboos in the courtyard On this occasion one *dhoti* or *sari* and 5 seers of grains are given to him.

Cheros.

There are Cheros in Sasaram and Bhabhua subdivisions in the district They are mostly found in Bhagwanpur and Adhaura blocks An investigation was made into the condition of the Cheros in villages Makrikhoh, Parari and Bajdihwa under Bhagwanpur block and village Dahar under Adhaura block. The actual total population of this community is not known but the investigation made in Adhaura and Bhagwanpur blocks is that they are about 533 in Adhaura block and 412 in Bhagwanpur block.

The Cheros are a landholding and cultivating class of people in this district They claim to be Rajputs The old Cheros claimed to be *Naghansi* Rajputs

The Cheros vary in complexion, but are usually of a light brown colour They have high cheek, low and broad noses and large mouths with protuberant lips

The Cheros of the district claim to be pure Rajputs and some of them wear sacred thread (*Janau*) They do not, however, inter marry in high-browed Rajput families If the economic condition of other Cheros was sound there would have been no hitch in their case also for inter-marriage between the Cheros and Rajputs as reported by Raghunandan Chero (*Baiga*) of village Makrikhoh.

Regarding the Cheros the observations of W. W. Hunter would be interesting He mentions —"According to Colonel Dalton, the Gangetic Provinces were once, in all probability, occupied by people speaking the Munda or Kolarian language, of whom the Cheros were the last dominant tribe Sir H Elliot states that they were sometimes considered a branch of the Bhars Through the whole of Behar, but specially in Shahabad, there are many monuments attributed either to them or to the Kols, but as some of these are temples dedicated to idol worship, it is impossible that they were erected by the latter At Tilouthu in the Sasseram subdivision there is a large image said to have been fashioned by them. Colonel Dalton concludes that the Kols alluded to were really Kharwars, who were for long mixed up with, and subject to the Cheros".

Dr Buchanan Hamilton says that the old Cheros claimed to be Naghansis, and held the tradition of their origin similar to that adopted by the Chutia Nagpur family It is traditionally asserted that the whole district of Shahabad formerly belonged to the Cheros Dr. Buchanan Hamilton supposes they were princes of the Sunak family, who flourished in the time of Gautama, about 500—600 B C They still create a *raja* for every five or six houses, and invest him with *tilak* They were expelled from Shahabad about 400—500 A D by the Savars or Suars according to some and by a tribe called Hariha, according to others. Both the Cheros and their conquerors, the Savars are considered impure by the Brahmans.

It is evident from their temples that they were worshippers of Siva and of Hanuman Whatever their position has been, they are now found in the meanest offices, lurking in the jungles with their cousins, the Kharwars Although they speak Hindi to outsiders, they are said to possess a secret language, unintelligible to Hindus *

The details regarding the changing scene among the Cheros are given below It will be seen that there is a clear stamp of the old background --

Birth.—At child-birth a woman is attended by her mother-in-law if she be available, and also by the *chamain* The woman after delivery takes bath on the sixth day, and on the twentieth day, if able again bathes and wears clean clothes She draws water from the village well after marking it five times with *Sindur*, and after this she is considered to be clean, and will do her usual work Births sometime occur out of wedlock If the Chero woman in presence of the caste *panchayat* names the father of the child the man named is obliged to marry her by the *sagai* form, and both are permitted to remain in the caste If the woman fails to mention the father's name, she is outcasted Such instance was quoted in the family of Raghunandan Chero of village Makrikhoh Children are named as soon as means are available for paying the Brahman He is told the date and hour of birth and he gives the name

Marriage.—Infant marriages are not in vogue. The girl and the boy are usually of the age of 10 or 12 years. Previously the Cheros did not allow Brahmans to conduct any social functions in their families but due to contact with the Hindus the system has changed Now the marriage service of Cheros conforms more to the orthodox Hindu pattern At the close of the *Bhanwar* ceremony the couple march round an earthen vessel set up in the centre of the *marwa* or marriage canopy, built of bamboos in the courtyard Polygamy is permitted but is not very common The Cheros have Brahman *gurus* and priests They worship Hindu gods but worship such spirits as *Baghaut*, *Cheori Darha*, *Dwarfal* and other to which goats fowls and sweets are offered In these sacrifices Brahmans do not take part The *Baiga* who is a priest of the aboriginal tribe performs the *puja* of these spirits The *Baiga* is given one *dhoti* and *saree* and 20 seers of grains after he conducts the *Puja*.

Tattooing.—Of the villages visited it was noticed that all Chero women are tattooed Tattooing is confined to women, and is made by a woman who is paid from two to four annas or one seer of grain Tattooing commences inside the forearms, and then goes on to the neck and breast Tattooing seems to be an ancient tradition

* *A Statistical Account of Bengal* (1877), Vol XII, pages 188-180

Also see H H Risley's *The Castes and Tribes of Northern India*, Vol I, 1891, pages 199—208

Funerals.—The dead are burnt in the usual manner. The Cheros as reported in villages Parari and Bajdihwa, take five bones, viz., two from the feet, two from the hands, and one from the ribs, from the ashes of the pile, and place them in a new earthen pot, which is buried in the ground near a *pipul* tree. The nearest male relative of the deceased pours water on the ground over the pot for ten days, and after this the usual ceremony of feeding Brahmans and others is performed.

It may be noted that the Cheros speak *Bhojpuri* language and they do not have any language or dialect of their own. Dalton's view that they have a secret language is not true now.

Food habits

Secondly, though the Cheros do not rear pigs, fowls, etc., but on an enquiry at villages Parari, Bajdinwa and Makrikhoh and especially reported by an old man Raghunandan Chero it was ascertained that many of them eat fowls and eggs and drink liquor. Their food habits have considerably changed due to the contact with other people.

As to the impact of the Community Development Project on the tribals, an investigation was made in some of the tribal villages in Adhaura, Bhagwanpur, Rohtas, Nauhatta Blocks. The investigation reports have been given elsewhere.

CASTE PANCHAYAT

A young scholar, Shri B. B. Goswami of the Anthropological Survey of India, has been working on the Caste Panchayats in different parts of Bihar (1964). He has carried out a certain amount of investigation in Shahabad district and will project his investigation in other districts as well. From a discussion with him, it appears that he has confirmed our conclusion that the Caste Panchayats still exist in quite an active form usually among such castes that are guild like and have stuck to their traditional occupations. Such castes are the *Chamars* (Rabidas-cobblers), the *Patwas* (weavers), the *Dhobi* (washermen) the *Banias* (small shopkeepers), the *Gonds* (stone workers), the *Gareris* (sheep rearers), etc. It will be seen that most of these castes occupy comparatively "lower grade" in the caste hierarchy. Anthropologically the castes that are in the cadre of inferior *Sudras* have got more virile Caste Panchayats. We further understand that some of the Caste Panchayats in Shahabad district have regular records of their findings and particularly of punishments that have been given to the members of their community for alleged breaches of social rules. Goswami got a case in the *Gond* caste of Shahabad district where for the sin of a cow dying in the house he had to feed the Brahmins and pay a certain amount of money for the cleansing ceremony. Mostly the breaches move round the pivot of breaking of social taboos particularly for marriage

and inter-dining. Even breaches of social laws, customs and practices such as elopement, rape, etc., have also been dealt with in the Caste Panchayats of this district Rarer are the cases for the redress of civil grievances such as land disputes. It is apparent that through these Caste Panchayats, the social solidarity of some of the castes has been kept up wonderfully in contrast to the so-called higher castes like the Brahmins, the Bhumihars and the Rajputs who have not got this type of Caste Panchayats The most virile of the Caste Panchayats are found among the *Chamars* and the *Patwas*. The *Patwas* have an annual Caste Panchayat session at a religious seat on the Sone, few miles away from Tilouthu The *Chamars* hold their Caste Panchayats whenever an occasion arises The jurisdiction of a Caste Panchayat is normally limited to a clearly demarcated geographic zone

The trends of upgrading a caste in the caste hierarchy have also been observed The castes that are most active for this upgrading, described as the process of sanskritisation by Prof M N. Srinivas, are mostly seen in such castes that have started accumulating considerable savings, such as, the Koeris, the Kahars and the Kurmis The Cheros and other Kharwars who are enlisted as Scheduled Tribes claim themselves to be Rajputs and are always keen to get marriages performed in poorer Rajput families This they are doing simultaneously with enjoying a number of special privileges as belonging to the Scheduled Tribes

AGRAHARI SIKHS OF SASARAM.

Sasaram in Shahabad and Karhagola in Purnea district are the two places in Bihar where there has been an indigenous Sikh population for centuries

The Agraharis have been settled in Sasaram for the last four centuries They are followers of Guru Nanak and belong to the "Udasi" section

Guru Nanak had two sons but Guru Nanak gave his *gadi* to one of his disciples, Guru Angad Deo The two sons of Guru Nanak did not like this and as a result they started preaching separately in a way slightly different from the preaching of Guru Nanak The followers of the two sons of Guru Nanak were known as members of "*Udasi Samudai*". When the preachers of "*Udasi Samudai*" came to Sasaram most of the communities engaged in trade and commerce adopted this modified Sikh faith The communities that accepted to be the members of "*Udasi Samudai*" were Agraharis, Sonar, Haluwai, Kesera, Kasanda teli, Kalwar and Khatries Besides the Agraharis even today there are members of some other communities who have adopted this form of Sikh religion

The Agraharis trace themselves to Maharaja Agrasena of Rajasthan According to them Maharaja Agrasena had two wives The sons of the first wife were called Agraharis It is, however, not

known to any one as to how these Agraharis came over to Sasaram. It is accepted that the main occupation of the Agraharis has always been business.

It is said that their condition was bad before the arrival of Guru Teg Bahadur, the ninth Guru of the Sikhs. Guru Teg Bahadur came to Sasaram and he stayed here for some days At that time the *Khankah* was of the landlords of Sasaram. It is said that the spot where Guru Teg Bahadur stayed became a great place of attraction and the plants became green The *Sajjadanashin* of the *Khankah* donated 52 bighas of land for the construction of a *Gurudwara* At this place *Gopastama mela* is still held every year in the month of *Bhado*

There are two sections of the Agraharis, one known as Singh Agraharis and the other Munaria Agraharis The Munaria Agraharis are known so because they do not keep long hairs and beard, i e, those who believe in getting the hairs cut (*Mundan*) are known as Munarias Singh Agraharis are those who keep long hairs and wear *Kripan* It is understood that the Munaria Agraharis wear *Kripans* but they do not attach so much importance to this

L. S. S. O Malley, I.C.S., mentioned in an article published in 1904 that there were about 700 Singh Agraharis and 25 Munaria Agraharis in Sasaram There appears to have been a decline in the number* The accurate figure is not available but there may be about 400 Singh Agraharis and 20 Munaria Agraharis This decline in the population of Agraharis is due to the fact that some of the Agraharis have migrated to important commercial cities like Calcutta, Kanpur, etc Those present at Sasaram are mostly shop-keepers dealing in cloth, grain, sugar and spices Some of the educated Agraharis have also joined service It is also possible that the Census enumerators have clubbed the Agraharis as Hindus.

The two sections have their points of difference There is inter marriage between the two sections under certain circumstances but this is only tolerated but not encouraged.

These two sections freely followed many of the Hindu customs and rites "*Pinda-dan*" in Gaya and offering of oblations to the dead ancestors, an essentially Hindu obligation, is done by many of them Some of the Agraharis participate in the worship of Hindu deities like Siva, Durga, etc "*Kul-devata*" is also worshipped All this indicates that the Agraharis follow a faith that has in it elements of both Sikhism and Hinduism There has been a great electicism in their religious outlook and they have broad catholicity to combine the both They follow Guru Nanak and also perform Hindu rites.

* *Journal, Asiatic Society of Bengal*, Vol LXXIII, Part III.

Widow marriage is prevalent amongst the Agraharis but it is not encouraged. It is, however, strictly prohibited for the widow of the younger brother to marry the elder brother In some of the orthodox Agrahari families, a remarried woman is not allowed to worship the "*Kul-devata*" of the family. This restriction is not rigid.

Social ostracism is still practised. If any Agrahari is outcasted, he could be taken back by realisation of a fine and by his purification in a ceremony known as "*Charan Amrit Chhakaw*" or "*Khand Amrit Chhakaw*" The fine realised is taken towards the maintenance of the Sikh *Gurudwara* at Sasaram

The Agraharis observe a rite of initiation of outsiders to their sect which corresponds to the "*Pahul* or *Amrit*" of orthodox Sikhs. The ceremony which they call "*Khand Amrit Chhakaw*" or "*Charan Amrit Chhakaw*" is performed in the presence of five Sikhs The latter repeat "*Mantras*" and the man puts on "*Kara*", "*Kacch*" and "*Kangha*", drink the *Charanamrit*, i e, *Batasa* or sugar and water mixed and stirred with a dagger and finally partake of the "*Kara*" *Prasad* The dagger with which this mixture is stirred is of two kinds and known as the "*Khand*" and the other as the "*Kripan*" when the point only is used The "*khand*" is apparently used for initiating the males and the "*Kripan*, is used only when women are admitted

It is essential for the boy and girl both to be made Sikh by performing "*Charan Amrit Chhakaw*" before they are united in a holy wedlock The Munaria Agraharis do not use *Kripan* at the time of '*Charan Amrit Chhakaw*" ceremony rather they mix *Tulsi* leaf in the '*Prasad*' for its purification

The Singh Agraharis believe that if any kind of food is touched with "*Kripan*" it is purified The Munarias however, believe in purifying food after mixing "*Tulsi*" leaves in it

There are four "*Gurudwaras*" of Agraharis at Sasaram They are known as "*Chachajee*", "*Taksaljee*", "*Puram Sanghat*" and "*New Sanghat*" The Agraharis maintain these "*Sanghats*" and "*Gurudwaras*" These "*Sanghats* and "*Gurudwaras*" are in good condition and they are regarded as sacred places

After having examined the abovementioned facts one can easily come to the conclusion that the Agraharis of Sasaram are disciples of Guru Nanak and they are Nanak Shahi inasmuch as their physique and dress are similar to the Sikhs They abstain from tobacco, keep their hair and beard unshaved and wear the iron *Kara* and the wooden comb, etc. They also observe the various rites in various functions as are observed by the Sikhs On the other hand the Agraharis do not mind observing rites of the Hindus on occasion of birth, marriage and death.

Religious Beliefs, Manners and Customs.

Religious beliefs of the Hindus.

The religious beliefs of the Hindus have undergone a great change with the lapse of time. The Hindu religious faith is a mixture of animism, polytheism and monism. Monism is an abstruse theory of philosophy and is adhered to by a few highly intellectual people The followers of Dayanand Saraswati or the Arya Samaj are believers of monism. The Brahmos believe in monotheism of the Upanishada and discard image-worship Polytheism and animism are followed by the common people The Hindu religion is still pre-eminently ritualistic and the worship of gods is looked upon as the first duty of man Oblation, prayer and the recitation of the sacred hymns are also observed The Hindus worship a legion of gods and goddesses, but the primary gods and goddesses are Vishnu and his consort Lakshmi, Shiva and his consort Bhawani or Parvati, Saraswati, Ganesh, Durga and Mahavira There are a large number of temples, old and new, scattered throughout the district A large number of temples are dedicated to Lord Shiva The temple of Lord Shiva at Brahampur attracts many Hindus not only of Shahabad but of the other districts of bihar on *Falgun Shivratri* and *Baisakh Shivratri* The Mundeshwari temple near Bhabua is the oldest Hindu temple in Bihar

Among the godlings, Bhairwa and Goraia are supposed to be the village guardians and watchmen and the destroyers of malevolent spirits. *Brahma Pichas* is the ghost of a Brahman who meets a violent death and is also widely worshipped, but the Brahma Baba of Mairwa has attained a local celebrity Many devout Hindus have a separate room for *devakuri* or the household god

Sacrifice is believed to be efficacious and thus it is looked upon as a bargain or give-and-take between god and man Goats, lambs, cocks and pigeons are sacrificed Big animals like buffaloes are rarely sacrificed Living kids used to be offered to the river Ganga Sacrifice of animals is now on the wane The community worship of Durga, Kali and Mahadeva had a tremendous hold on the masses Brahmoism and the Arya Sabha have been treated separately.

Religious beliefs of the Muslims

Monism is the cardinal principle of Islam and a devout Muslim has no other god but *Allah*, and has his *Rasul* or Messenger, the prophet Mohammad. But a sort of saint worship or *Pir* worship has become a common feature. A *Pir's* tomb often becomes a place of pilgrimage In Shahabad district there are several tombs of the Muslim saints where *urs* ceremony is held The devout Muslims keep awake for the whole night and after the recital of the *maulood*, the *chadar* or the sheet by which the tomb of the *Pir* is covered, is changed. The *wahabi* sect of the Muslim community is not in

favour of the *urs* worship. There are very few Ahmadia Muslims in the district. The town Sasaram contains a few *khanquahs*. One of the important *khanquahs* is *Khanquah* Ghausia where *urs* is held every year on a large scale. *Urs* is also held in other *khanquahs* of Sasaram. There are other places also in the district where *urs* is held. Some of the places are Milki Mohalla, Arrah, Waliganj near Arrah, Bihea, on the *Mazar* of Shaikh Bahbal near Rohtas fort, etc.

Customs

Orthodox Hindus observe various customs from the conception in womb till death. There are forty *samskars* which are to be observed but now a few are observed strictly.

Birth

During the period of pregnancy the mother is subject to various taboos. In the case of first pregnancy, the woman has to be saved from attacks of evil spirits and she has to observe a number of restraints. During eclipse she is not permitted to cut anything with force and is asked to hold *kus* grass and stone in her hand till the eclipse continues. Bitter and sour food and acid fruits are not to be given to an expectant mother. She is also not to sleep in the *angan* or courtyard or under a tree. She has to wear amulets to ward off the evil eye.

In a village and in the family of the common man at the inception of labour pain she lies down in a room which has been swept clean and kept warm dimly lighted and free from draught. A midwife, generally a *chamain* is called to attend the expectant mother from the time of delivery of the child to a period of ten or twelve days thereafter. Thorn, old shoes, fire and a sword are kept at the door of the room to ward off the evil spirits. The expectant mother often ties up a herb with a pair of rings round the waist. A brass dish is beaten to herald the birth of a male child.

After delivery, the navel chord of the child is cut and ashes and oil are first applied and then the baby is washed. The mother is supposed to follow various taboos for the first twelve or twenty days.

A ceremony called *Chhathihar* is observed on the sixth day of the child-birth with a good deal of rejoicing. *Pujah* is performed by a *pandit* or priest and food is offered to relatives and friends. Presents are given to the mother and child by the elders. A major custom is observed if the child is born during a particular period known as *satarsa* which is supposed to be inauspicious. If the child is born during the *satarsa nakshatra*, the father is not permitted to see the child unless the *satarsa pujah* is performed after the lapse of 27 day and sometimes for another 27 days also. The naming ceremony or the *Namkaran* is generally held on the 12th day of the child-birth, provided the child is not born during the *satarsa* period.

The other major *samskar* is *mundan* or the first shaving of the child. But now in some cases this rite is held simultaneously with the *upanayan* or sacred thread ceremony. *Upanayan* or *Janau*, as it is popularly known, is the ritualistic ceremony of investing the boy with *Yagnopavita* (sacred thread). A *mandap* is erected in front of the house decked with plantain trees, mango leaves and green fruits and a pitcher (*kalas*) is kept full of water and turmeric. Relatives and friends are invited and the sacred thread ceremony is performed after observing various rites. Priests, barbers and other attendants usually receive gifts in the form of cloth, money, corn and even lands. Feasts are given to relatives and friends. Hindu law-givers like Manu and others had sanctioned this rite obligatory only to the Brahmans and the Kshatriyas but now a great laxity is seen as Vaisyas and Harijans also take the sacred thread.

Marriage

The next important *samskar* is the marriage rite which is performed with some pomp. The *Hindu Dharma Sastra* has classified eight types of marriages. Marriage is generally settled after examination of horoscopes of both the bridegroom and the bride by an astrologer who predicts whether the stars of both are in harmony. But this practice is slowly falling into disuse among the enlightened people. Cases of love marriage are becoming common. Inter-caste or even inter-racial marriages are becoming common. Civil marriages by registration have not yet become popular.

Marriage is usually settled by the guardians of the parties but the consent of the bridegroom or the bride is not ignored. An auspicious day according to the Hindu calendar is fixed for performing marriage. On the stipulated day the bridegroom with a party consisting of relatives and friends visit the house of the father of the bride. At the auspicious time the marriage rite is performed by a priest and hymns are uttered to solemnise the marriage. *Saptapadigaman* or going round the sacred fire is held to be essential. After the performance of some rites, the ritual of *Kanyadan* or giving away of the bride is done by the guardian of the bride which is followed by *Kanyapanigrahana* or accepting of the bride by the bridegroom on the utterance of solemn pledges. The rite of marriage usually comes to a close after applying vermilion or *sindurdan* by the bridegroom on the forehead of the bride. The *sindurdan* has now percolated to almost all the castes and communities where it was unknown some years before.

Funeral Rites

It is taken to be the religious duty of a son to perform the last rites of the deceased father for his spiritual salvation. The dead body is usually carried on a bier by persons and is usually cremated on the bank of a river or a tank. The last rites are generally performed by the eldest son of the deceased father and in the case

of a mother by the youngest. The dead body of the new-born up to the age of five or six years and of the *sanyasi* or ascetic is usually buried. Lepers and persons who die of snake-bite or small-pox, are immersed by fastening an earthen pot to the neck.

The person who kindles the fire in the pyre is called the *karta* or the chief mourner and has to observe several restrictions for a period. The main *sradh* is performed on the twelfth day of the death of the deceased. *Tarpan* and *Pinda* or oblation and ball of rice or cake is offered to the deceased by the *Karta* and the family priest utters hymns for the salvation of the soul. *Sradh* is performed according to the social status of the deceased but an extravagance beyond the means is often seen. *Sradh* at a later date at Gaya is often done.

Customs among the Muslims

Some of the customs of the Muslims are different from those of the Hindus. Muslim women during pregnancy observe like Hindus a number of restrictions. After the birth of a child the father or any male member present recites the *azan* into the ears of the child. For the first forty days the mother abstains from the regular prayer. The Muslims circumcise their male children before they reach the age of seven or eight years. They also perform the *Bismillah* or *Maktab* ceremony of the child at the age of five by reciting the verses of the holy *Kuran*. This ceremony is supposed to mark the beginning of the educational career of the child. On the occasion of this ceremony sweets are distributed to friends and relatives.

Marriage

The marriage customs of the Muslims are more simplified than the Hindus. Two male witnesses bear the testimony to the celebration of the marriage after taking the consent of the bride. After her consent they declare her intention to the public and then the sermon of the *Khutba-e-nikah* is recited. The bride's father or *wali* gives away the bride in marriage to the bridegroom. On the eve of the departure of the bride to the house of the bridegroom, the *jalwa* ceremony is performed. They are made to see each other's face in a mirror and to read the *Kuran* together.

Death

Recital of verses from the holy *Kuran* and *Kalma* are made in low voice into the ear of the dying man. The dead body covered with cloth (*Kafan*) is placed in a bier (*Janaza*) and is carried by men to the graveyard. The last prayer is offered near the graveyard. The dead body is laid in the grave, the head being kept towards the north and the face towards the west to face the *Kaba*. After the grave is closed the *imam* recites verses of the *Kuran* and all present pray for the peace of soul. On the fortieth day alms are distributed and a dinner is given to friends and relatives.

Inter-caste relations.

The traditional division of *varna* or caste amongst Hindus is a part of the society but the pointedness of casteism of the old days has practically died out Untouchability is now a crime People of different castes now do not hesitate to take food on a common table in restaurants and hotels Inter-caste dining is common in a hotel No one questions now as to who is employed as a cook in a hotel or a restaurant Inter-caste and inter-race marriages also are now tolerated. The facility of better communications and presence of different types of people in the village or town, co-education in the institutions, a shift in the social status have all helped the caste-system to shed its perpetuation of difference between a man and a man The liquidation of the bad aspect of caste-system has started and the trend cannot stop now There is an upsurge among the so-called lower castes and communities The trends of urbanisation and industrialisation are cutting at the roots of casteism But the elections and a hankering after a political career have led to tensions and a new type of caste-consciousness Usually these feelings subside after a political election is over Inter-caste relations are also getting a new shape as the traditional occupations of some castes are no longer followed A Chamar or a Dom doing plumbing or sanitary work will have access to the high Hindu caste household A Dusadh cook is a common sight in the household of an enlightened Hindu who does not follow rigid orthodoxy On the other hand since the thirties the forward-backward feelings and caste consciousness have become very marked and almost decide the elections

New religious movements

The British administration did not interfere with the growth of religions other than Christianity The system of education that was introduced by the early British administrators encouraged the study of English literature, History, Philosophy, Political Science and allied subjects Study of science was encouraged Medical colleges were started Serious attempts were made to improve the live stock and agricultural practices This liberal education meant the beginning of a tremendous upsurge From the days of Raja Ram Mohan Roy we find a definite break with the various orthodox ways which gave rise to new religious movements Along with the growth of the spirit of nationalism there came quite a few religious saints who preached the older religions in a new form Raja Ram Mohan Roy who was a great scholar and knew a number of languages and a nationalist to the core of his heart sponsored the *Brahmo Samaj* Swami Daya Nanda Saraswati sponsored the *Arya Samaj* Theosophy was preached by a number of men throughout India and came to be a potent factor in shaping the cultural life The ideas of Sufism had also spread. The Christian Mission spread far and wide and pioneered schools and hospitals along with their evangelical work. These were some of the currents that had their impact

on Bihar generally and Shahabad district was no exception The gospel of Christianity was a new religion but the creed of *Arya Samaj* the *Brahmo Samaj* or the school of Theosophy was more a reorientation of Hinduism They gave different interpretations and it will not be correct to say that they were opposed to the basic ideas of Hinduism

The Arya Samaj

The *Arya Samaj* was established in the district in 1878 It is a very old organisation which is working at social reforms in the district It was established with a view to bring out all-round social reforms in Hindu society The main aim and object of it are extensive social work in the district such as, Hindu widow marriage, girls' education, child marriage, abolition of untouchability adult education, illiteracy campaign, etc

There are 12 important centres of the *Arya Samaj* in the district situated at Arrah, Jagdishpur, Piro, Lasarhi, Buxar, Dehri-on-Sone, Koilwar, Bhabua, Ramgarh, Mohania, Agiaon and Sasaram At every centre annual functions are held besides regular weekly sittings for religious preaching It runs 5 middle and 7 primary schools for boys and 6 primary schools for girls, 20 libraries and 10 *Vedic Arya Samaj Mandirs* in the district They are scattered all over the district

Brahmoism

Brahmoism a theistic form of Hinduism was propounded by Raja Ram Mohan Roy who was the pioneer of a great reformist movement both on the religious and social side Raja Ram Mohan Roy was the man who was the father of a renaissance in India His great disciple was Maharshi Debendra Nath Tagore and Keshav Chandra Sen They spread the movement of the Raja that had grown out of the limitations of Hinduism towards universal religion The movement was ethical, religious and reformatory

In the seventh decade of the last century a large number of Brahmo missionaries headed by Brahmananda Keshav Chandra Sen of Calcutta had visited different towns of Bihar at different times and a number of Brahmo *Mandirs* were set up Keshav Chandra Sen who was a great Brahmo preacher on whom the mantle of Maharshi Devendra Nath Tagore, the father of Rabindra Nath Tagore, had fallen visited different parts of Bihar several times*. His first visit was in 1867 and the second visit was a year after His third visit appears to have been in 1879

During his first visit he had visited Bhagalpur and Patna From Patna along with Pratap Chandra Majumdar, Mahendra Nath Basu and Amrita Lal Basu he left for Allahabad, Kanpur, Delhi and

* *Acharya Kesha Chandra Sen* by Upadhaya Gour Govinda Roy, a very rare book now

Lahore. The visit to Patna was a great success and his lecture meetings at the Mission School and at the Government college were very largely attended Apart from the tenets of Brahmoism, a theistic religion, he gave a great emphasis on social regeneration through education, removal of untouchability, caste system, emancipation of women, ignorance of traditional orientalism, etc., which brought in a great enthusiasm to this part of the country In his second visit he spent sometime at Bhagalpur and Monghyr and then at Patna. By that time a number of Brahmo Samaj churches and study centres had already been set up at these places. He went to several other places, namely, Jabalpur, Bombay, Allahabad and returned to Monghyr to re-join his family whom he had left there under the care of Sadhu Aghore Nath Gupta, the resident missionary at Monghyr. The Brahmo prayer-meetings were largely attended by orthodox Hindus and Muslims and the ideas rapidly spread.

Keshav's third visit to Bihar in 1879 covered Mokamah, Barh, Bazitpur, Muzaffarpur, Gaya, Patna and then Arrah By this time the human side of Brahmoism had already obtained a foothold His Hindi hymns (songs), street-singing and his lectures in Hindi were very widely appreciated and given publicity In Muzaffarpur at *Sahujika Pokhar* Keshav addressed a meeting and then there was street-singing on November 8, 1879 On the 10th November he spoke for 40 minutes in Hindi which aroused great enthusiasm in the assembly Keshav came to Patna on the 12th November and left for Gaya next morning In the school grounds at Gaya on the 14th November he first spoke in English and then in Hindi He next visited Bodh Gaya where he offered prayers near the Maha bodhi temple When he visited the temple of Vishnupad in Gaya on the 18th November morning, he was received by one of the chief priests who contributed Rs 50 to his fund, and said "you are an Acharya and I must honour you" The party came back to Bankipur on the 19th November Patna at that time had Shri Prakash Chandra Roy, father of late Dr B C Roy as a Government servant K. N. Roy, another high Government official was the host of Shri Keshav. Shri Keshav and his party had already become quite famous for their religious preaching in Bihar when they went to Dumraon on the 25th November 1879. At Dumraon Keshav and his party were received by the Maharaja's Manager, Shri Jay Prakash Lal* and his *Nanakpanthi Guru* (Nagaji Swami) and in spite of remonstrances the party was lodged in a palatial house and was entertained in right European style. Keshav addressed several meetings in Dumraon and the Maharaja came to meet Keshav which was a great mark of honour at that time. The Maharaja also contributed liberally to Keshav's religious fund. The *Nanakpanthi Guru* (Nagaji Swami) presided over some of the meetings addressed by Keshav. From Dumraon they went to Ghazipur and on their way

* This gentleman had presided over the All-India Kayastha Conference in 1897.

back the party visited Sonepur and Arrah The Maharaja of Dumraon had a camp set up for his party at Sonepur where the famous annual fair was then on. Keshav held *kirtan* in the heart of the *mela* on the 30th November and gave a short address in Hindi. They visited the Harihar temple singing hymns on their way. He re-visited Arrah on the 2nd December and addressed a very large meeting in the school hall with the District Magistrate in the chair. The subject of his address was "*Satyam eba Jayate Nanritam*" (truth triumphs and not untruth). From Arrah the party went back to Calcutta.

Keshav's visits followed by other Brahmo preachers had a great religious and social impact on the people of all the places he had visited As a result the district of Shahabad specially Arrah town profited immensely On the social plane Brahmoism fought against untouchability, illiteracy, seclusion of women and denial of literacy and fundamental rights to them, etc, and this had a greater impact than the religious preachings A number of Behari Hindus, namely, Brahmadev Narain, Baldev Narain, Bajrang Behari Lal, etc, joined the Brahmo Samaj Prakash Chandra Roy, father of late Dr B C Roy was posted to Arrah for sometime while his other places of posting were Bankipore and Motihari His house in Arrah was also a great social centre where many orthodox Hindus and Muslims congregated to attend the prayer-meetings As it was emphasised that every religion had some good points, the meetings were very popular The theism of the Brahmo Samaj had a special appeal along with an emphasis on social regeneration where the evils of caste system, no marriage for the widows, denial of education to the women, etc, were condemned

The Brahmo Samaj Centre at Arrah as such has declined as most of the Brahmos there either left the place or died Dr Mitra, a Civil Surgeon of Arrah and his son who was also a doctor did a lot to spread the message of Brahmoism.

Keshav's work was continued by Pandit Shivanath Shastri, a great preacher of the *Sadharan Brahmo Samaj* who also visited a large number of places of Bihar The famous institution of Ram Mohan Roy Seminary in Patna was the handiwork of Shivanath Shastri along with others Shastriji visited Arrah four times, viz, 1878, 1894, 1895 and 1896 and there was a branch of *Sadharan* Brahmo Samaj Ashram in Arrah which was, however, removed to Bankipur in July, 1896 It may be mentioned that working for the emancipation of women and the untouchables (Harijans) and bringing relief to the general downtrodden classes have been a great contribution of the Brahmo Samaj in the district of Shahabad. In a sense, it may be said that the Brahmo Samaj was one of the pioneers for such humanitarian work. There can be no denial that the Brahmo Samaj along with the Arya Samaj did a lot to pioneer

social work in Shahabad district as well as in some other districts of Bihar. This pioneer work of theirs either by the way of girls' education or Harijan uplift or extension of literacy work, or putting down the evils of caste system, etc, was taken up by other persons and other bodies which may not have been imbued with the religious ideas of the Brahmo Samaj or the Arya Samaj As a matter of fact, the triumph of these cults lies in the fact that the great work they pioneered was taken up by others without subscribing directly to their religious views.

The Methodist Mission in Shahabad District.

The Protestant Mission work in Shahabad district is carried on by the Methodist Church in Southern Asia Its work dates from the year 1909, when it took over the work in Arrah

Rev A L Gray had come to Arrah in the early years of the first decade in the present century He was not working under the auspices of any particular church or mission, but supported himself and his work, on the basis of private gifts from churches in the United States where he had personal contacts from his childhood. In 1909 he approached the Methodist Episcopal Church authorities in Calcutta, to see if they would accept him and his wife, along with other workers, in this mission They were accepted and from that time their personnel extensive property and activities were the foundation of the Protestant mission work in Shahabad district

At present (1964) there are organised church congregations in Arrah, Buxar and Sasaram A Methodist Hospital is maintained at Pratapsagar (police-station Dumraon). There are also village circuits of small congregations under a pastor. These are six in number situated at Bikramganj, Piro, Dhansoin, Raghunathpur, Shahpur and Jagdishpur.

There is a big co-educational middle school at Arrah which has about 400 students There is a middle school with 150 boys in the village Nagpur (police-station Dumraon), and also a hostel with an accommodation of 80 students who read in a local high school at Ballihar (police-station Dumraon) There are 25 primary schools in villages all over the district, one with a hostel at Bikramganj and each school has between ten and forty students. The mission schools are marked by a sense of discipline of the students.

The Methodist Hospital treating only outdoor patient is located near village Pratapsagar It was established in 1950. It has treated over 42,000 people in 1962.

The Roman Catholic Church in Shahabad District.

The beginning of the work of the Roman Catholic Church in the district dates from the year 1936.

The first centre of the mission was opened at Piro in 1936 by Fr H. I Westropp. There is a mission dispensary also To assist in solving the illiteracy problem, and providing character training for the more neglected elements, gradually 20 primary unrecognised schools were started in the villages of the district. They are distributed equally in each of Sadar, Buxar, Bhabhua and Sasaram subdivisions

In 1939 a Church was established in a rented building in mohalla Katira of Arrah town In the same year a site was acquired opposite H D Jain College, Arrah and a Church and school were built. The school started as lower primary and was recognised as upper primary under Father Pollard in 1941 Father Pollard brought the school to middle standard The dispensary work continued hand in hand With the needs of the times, the school has now been bifurcated into a middle school with 250 pupils and a high school with 150 pupils There is an excellent pottery section where very fine statues are made

Father Pollard moved on from Arrah to establish a Mission Centre at Shahpur After pioneering for a time in the village, he acquired a site suitable for the school and the dispensary which was completed in 1953 This dispensary is in charge of the Mothers of the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary A hospital is being added

There is also a centre at Buxar with an unrecognised girls' middle school with 65 pupils conducted by the Indian Sisters It was started in 1940 The school has also a dispensary with trained personnel

Besides these centres there are three more centres also doing socio-educational religious service for the needs of the people in the interior They are as follows —

(1) Itarhi, opened in 1950 and serves fifteen to twenty villages.

(2) Koath, opened in 1948 with a dispensary.

(3) Piro, opened in 1940 and serves some forty villages, and

(4) Sasaram, opened in 1958 to serve the people south of the Grand Trunk Road. It is now in the initial stage.

Theosophical Society in Shahabad

A lodge of the Theosophical Society was founded at Arrah in 1899 by a group of enthusiastic students of Theosophy or *Brahma Vidya* headed by the then leading lawyer Shri Kailash Chandra Banerjee. The society has worked for the promotion of universal brotherhood and humanity. It holds regular study classes and arranges for public lectures on religion, philosophy and science

Occasional conferences are held and attended by members from all parts of the State.

New lodges have been started at Dehri-on-Sone and Buxar for the propagation of Theosophy

SOCIAL LIFE

Property and Inheritance.

The discussions on this subject in the other District Gazetteers also apply for the inhabitants of Shahabad district Briefly some of the facts may be repeated For the Hindus, the law of inheritance is governed by the Hindu Law and in the case of Muhammadans by Muhammadan Law. A Hindu's property is never held in abeyance. It is a general principle of the Hindu Law that property devolves on the sons on the death of the father According to Manu, the great law giver, "to the nearest *Sapinda* the inheritance next belongs". A Hindu accrues his right in the ancestral property as soon as he is conceived but such right cannot be accrued in the separate property of his father There are two schools of Hindu Law *Dayabhag* and *Mitakshara* which govern different sections of the Hindus

The position of women in this district along with the women elsewhere has substantially changed since the passing of the Hindu Succession Act, 1956 Before the passing of the above Act, except *Stridhan*, a woman was legally not supposed to be the last owner of the property, nor a married daughter could claim right in her father's property But now a daughter has as good a claim in her father's property as the son, provided her father does not debar her legally Secondly, earlier a widow had only life interest in the property and she was not legally entitled to dispose of her property as she liked That disqualification is now removed

In this district the right of inheritance accrues from the side of the father Matriarchal system is foreign to this district except in the *Stridhan* in which the right of inheritance accrues legally from the mother's side But in this also the law seldom operates and the son is always preferred by the mother The sister usually hesitates to go to the court of law for the assertion of her right

So far as the Muhammadans are concerned the father has absolute right in the properties and can debar any of the sons from inheritance if he is not satisfied with his son Among the Muhammadans the daughter has as good a claim in her father's property as the son and there is a fixed ratio of the right of son and daughter

Family Life, Marriage and Morals.

The old idea of joint family system among the Hindus is rapidly liquidating even in the villages. The shift of the more intelligent and the educated section from the rural areas to the towns is a contributory factor Family life is becoming more and more integrated

and individualistic. Usually the branch of the family which earns more money slowly separates from the poorer branch Family life in the villages is definitely disintegrating. This is also due to the fact that the chances of employment in the villages are small and the educated persons have got to shift to the urban areas. With the development of communications, expansion of block projects, cottage and rural industries there may, however, be some change in the near future. The abolition of zamindari has accelerated the shift to the urban areas

The sacramental nature of the Hindu marriage is still not on the wane But among the educated section civil marriages have not yet become common but definitely the ideas are percolating Monogamy is generally practised but polygamy is not unknown Polyandry is unknown in the district. Polygamy is practised generally when the first wife is either suffering from sterility or from any incurable disease Marriage regulations are governed by the laws, long standing customs and traditions In Hindu society the marriages between near relatives are held to be improper but not void.

Among the Muslims also law and tradition impose certain restriction on the marriages according to Muslim theology The number of civil marriages and inter-caste marriages are very few in the district but the persons so married are accepted in the society. Education and status help this feature Dowry system is not only still prevalent in some shape or the other but the demand is increasing and has percolated even to the backward communities The Engineer and doctor grooms fetch the highest dowry. In middle class families the marriage of a daughter has become a problem due to the demand of dowry. The legal bar to the demand and acceptance of dowry is said to be commonly breached Widow marriage is not held to be abnormal now although cases of widow marriage are not large. Working girls have no more difficulties to get married than the others But it has got to be admitted that although theoretically women are held in high esteem and have equal franchise rights, etc , they are not given their proper position yet either in the rural or the urban areas Still economically women are dependent on their husbands, fathers or sons or others due to the peculiar structure of the society and conventions Independent earning by women is not very common It is a fact that the women of lower castes or the working girls are economically better off owing to their earning status The society has yet to give due honour to the working girls. It is unfortunate that the backwardness of women as a class is holding back a broad-based social upgrading There are, however, distinct signs of a break and the Brahmo Samaj, Arya Samaj, the Indian National Congress, Bharat Sewak Samaj, All-India Women's Council, Social Service Board and various other voluntary social service organisations are actively engaged in broad-basing the

social structure where women will have their full share. Women are now holding seats in the Legislature on their own. Girl's education has been spreading quickly. The menfolk have been entirely responsible for the backwardness of the women. It is the backwardness of the womenfolk that has been pulling back the general social upgrading.

Prostitution.

It is gathered that prostitution has been in existence in this district from ancient times. In some families in this district the profession of prostitution is hereditary. It is peculiar that in this district prostitutes are found even in remote villages and till recently were accepted as almost a normal feature in the social life.*

Apart from the prostitutes there is a recognised class of dancing girls in this district. It is understood that some of the dancing girls of this district in the past could hold their own talents against those of Varanasi or Lucknow. Many of the dancing girls also follow, it is said, the profession of prostitution. Entertainments by dancing girls in functions like marriages, *tilak*, etc., were a very common feature till quite late. Fifty years back going out in phaetons with one's concubines or a famed dancing girl was not considered improper on the part of a *Rais*. The prostitutes of Arrah came to occupy or own pucca residential houses in the very heart of the town. There were a large number of them at *Gopalia Kuan* muhalla and other muhallas. Bhabua subdivision has some villages where dancing girls are regularly trained in their profession. It is understood that quite a few of the famous dancing girls of Varanasi were trained in Bhabua. It is also a notorious fact that keeping concubines was tacitly accepted in the society of the rich.

One Dharmanbibi, a Muslim lady was deeply attached to Baboo Kuar Singh and even followed him when he was moving from place to place waging fights against the British in 1857. As a matter of fact Dharmanbibi died in one of his expeditions. Kuar Singh's love for her made him endow a mosque in the heart of the town of Arrah which is still known as Dharman Masjid.

The virus of prostitution or concubinage had so much percolated that this is probably one of the few districts of Bihar which has or had a few prostitutes almost in every big villages. Apart from the professional class of prostitutes the *Nut* girls distributed throughout the district are also very low in their morals and colonies of *Nuts* are quite common. Some of the other low-caste women like Musaharins were also following the profession. Till recently there was a colony of Musahars adjoining Dehri Police thana and many of the Musaharin girls there used to carry on prostitution

*One entire muhalla of Sasaram town, viz. "*Jani ka-Bazar*" drives its name from the prostitutes. "*Jani*" means prostitutes or dancing girls.

quite openly. Very few *barat* parties (parties following a bridegroom) of the richer section would be without some dancing girls. The *barat* parties of poorer section would take out *Nutin* girls. It is also a notorious fact that there used to be an immoral traffic in young girls of various castes of this district and the girls used to be sent mostly to the Punjab.

There are usually two classes among the prostitutes. One class feels insulted if they are described as prostitutes but the other class has no such feeling. The former claims to be the followers of the mythological Gandharva, famous for dancing and singing. Many belonging to this class are experts in dancing and their services are usually engaged in social functions like marriage, etc. It is not that some of these dancing women do not become concubines of the richer folk but they consider themselves as superior to those of the other class who earns a living by hiring themselves In this district except very few all the prostitutes earn their livelihood by hiring themselves.

The number of these prostitutes was previously fairly large. But as reported their number is on the decline. The abolition of zamindari and the deterioration of the economic condition of the common man have affected these professionals very adversely.

At Arrah town there are about 60 families of this profession and 52 brothel keepers mostly confined at Chitratoli Road, Gola Mohalla and Lari Mohalla. There has been no segregation of this class into one particular area. These *mohallas* are in the heart of the town and quite close to the schools These *mohallas* especially Chitratoli are the busy centres of the town. On both sides of the road the prostitutes live on the upper storeys of the houses They used to sit on the balconies of their houses in the evenings and people used to visit them there. But after the enforcement of the Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act of 1956 in 1960, they do not sit openly on their balconies. They have now formed a group called *Nritya Kala Sangh*. A *Gayika Sangh* signboard has been hung up at many houses. They claim that they are now singers and dancers and not prostitutes. But people still visit their houses for prostitution. Sometimes organised raids are organised in the areas inhabited by the prostitutes to check the prostitution in the town. In 1960 a raid was organised in Arrah town and 15 cases were detected under the Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act, 1956 in which 7 cases were charge-sheeted out of which 2 cases ended in conviction and 5 acquitted. The total number of persons involved in all the 15 cases were 25 both males and females. Again in 1962, 3 cases were detected under the above Act and 2 cases were charge-sheeted. The raids have had some effect.

In Arrah town the following areas have been declared as public places where prostitution in any form is not to be allowed:—

(1) Chitratoli road area which contains Arrah Town School and Kishore Dal Shishoo Bhawan, (2) Gola Mohalla which has in it Zila School Hostel and H. P Jain School, (3) Tari Mohalla in which Wahidia Madrasa with Masjid, Dharman Chowk Masjid and Shahi Mosque are situated, and (4) Guru Nanak Gurudwara area in Babhwagali, Mahadeva road.

In Sadar subdivision besides Arrah town, prostitution is carried on at Bihea, Piro, Tarari and Hasan Bazar.

In Sasaram and Bhabua subdivisions there are some 120 families of prostitutes. These prostitutes are mostly *Nuts* by caste who live in their own houses and people visit them there. These prostitutes are found (1) in Sasaram subdivision—at Sasaram town and Agrer, Beda, Bareja, Bungla, Akorhi gola, Dehri, Bikramganj, Nasriganj and Nutwar villages, (2) in Bhabua subdivision—at Bhabua, town and Dhanechha, Kalyanpur, Jehanabad, Kudra, Ghuloon, Jakrabad and Sakri villages. At Sasaram in 1960, a raid under the Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act was organised by Government in which one case was detected and 28 persons were chargesheeted.

In Buxar subdivision, figures for Buxar Police-Station only is available. There are 20 families of prostitutes in this police station.

Drinking and Gambling

Shahabad district is not a prohibited area. Both country and foreign liquor are sold in the district.

The innumerable *tal* and *khajur* trees in this district have led to a craze for *tari*. The beverage of unfermented *tal* juice is said to have medicinal value. The *tari* of Sasaram town is said to be very tasty. Fermented *tal* juice or *tari* is the poor men's beer and any prohibition of the drinking of *tari* will deprive them of a source of joy. But it could be controlled. Sale of *tari* is controlled by the Excise Department but illegal tapping of *tal* trees for *tari* is difficult to check. There has been no proper census of *tal* trees in this district but the number must be many thousands. Sale of country liquor is also controlled by the Excise Department by enhancing the price of the liquor. There are licensed shops both in the towns as well as in the rural areas where country liquor of different grades is sold. There is a ban for the consumption of country liquor within the premises of the shop. This is mostly followed by breach. The original idea is that if there is a ban on the consumption of country liquor within the shop premises there will be a decline in the consumption of the liquor. It was thought that the people will hesitate to buy bottles of country liquor and take them home for drinking

just outside the shop. This expectation has not been fulfilled. Drinking is on the increase in all the strata of society. Sale of foreign liquor is also controlled. There are very few shops in the district for foreign liquor. The enormous rise in the price of foreign liquor stands as a check to its promiscuous consumption. The use of *nira* or unfermented *tari* has yet to become popular.

Certain types of criminal offences are usually associated with promiscuous drinking. One belongs to the category of sexual offences. Crime figures of such offences will be found in the relevant chapters but it is difficult to say what percentage of such figures could be said to be due to drinking. Another common offence associated with drinking is gambling. Gambling is quite common. It may be said that during *Diwali* festival gambling is very common. Gambling is also very common in the *melas* of the district. There are various modes of play which could be described as gambling. The most favourite mode is the play with dices and gambling with cards. Card games are popular in modern society. Such games are bridge, flush, rummy and *tin tasia*.

HOME LIFE

Types of dwelling

Regarding houses, the last District Gazetteer of Shahabad (1924) had mentioned as follows.—" The houses are divided, in almost all cases, into two principal divisions one for males, and the other for females. A rich man has generally two courtyards (*angan*), each surrounded by verandahs, from which doors lead into the various rooms. The front door leads into the outer courtyard, on the left of which is a hall for the reception of guests, and on the right are two or three rooms, which are generally used as bedrooms for the males. Beyond this courtyard is another, surrounded by the female apartments. On one side are bed-rooms, and on the other the kitchen, store-house, and a latrine for females. There is also a sitting-room for the ladies of the household. The houses of the middle classes are smaller; but are constructed on much the same plan. The female division will only contain three or four rooms, besides the kitchen and store room, one for the owner and his wife another for the eldest son, if married and the rest for unmarried girls and maid servants.

"Little or no attention is paid to ventilation, even in the better class of houses. All the rooms are jealously closed; and the windows, if there are any, are raised much above the height of a man, and are so small that scarcely any light can penetrate into the room. Among the poorer classes there will be only one room for all the females, and an outer verandah or shed for the reception of visitors. The kitchen is always attached to the female room; and when the family is very poor, the same room has to serve for both cooking

and sleeping in. Where houses are built with two or more storeys, the ground floor is used for kitchen, store-rooms, etc.; while the other storeys are divided into bed-rooms and sitting-rooms."*

The above quotations still hold good to some extent for both the urban and rural areas of the district. For fear of burglars the inmates sleep in the upper floor if there is one.

Rural.

The impact of economic development, contact with the outside world and availability of building materials like cement, iron rods, etc., have brought in some changes in the types of houses in the rural areas. The houses of the people of the upper income group are being built on modern designs with iron rods, cement, brick, mortar, etc. Reinforced concrete buildings are getting common. The materials for building a house still continue to be mud, bamboos, reeds and tiles for the people of lower income group. The houses of the well-to-do cultivators have *pucca* roofs and some of them have a second storey which is known as *kotha*. Electricity is now available in some of the rural areas also but not commonly tapped because of the high charges.

In the villages the well-to-do people have their huts (*deras*) in their cultivation fields. These huts are of mud or brick surrounded by verandahs and containing generally one big hall. These huts serve the purpose of barn, the land in front of them being used for keeping harvested crop and threshing. The huts on the *diara* lands are very temporary affair and very flimsily made.

Most of the villages in the district have been divided into distinct parts. Each of these parts is called *tola* and a *tola* is generally inhabited by the people of a particular caste or community. There is no sewerage system within the villages, and consequently dirty water is allowed to accumulate. Cattle tied just in front of the houses cause a lot of filth and insanitation. Compost pits are maintained just in front of the houses and naturally lead to the breeding of flies and mosquitoes. There are very few houses in the villages with lavatories.

Urban.

Reinforced concrete houses built with iron rods, cement and mortar are becoming common in urban areas. The older *pucca* houses were constructed with mud, lime, mortar. They were mostly badly ventilated. The modern houses of the higher income group are better ventilated, spacious and usually provided with modern conveniences. The poorer sections have a variety of houses, large and small. There are slum areas in all the towns and the houses there are more of hovels. There is overcrowding in the houses generally.

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), pages 52-53.

Most of the houses both in the rural and urban areas have a separate section for the ladies. The modern type houses have the usual set of living rooms, drawing room, bath and lavatories. In some of the old type houses there is a quadrangular open space known as the *angan* The houses of the richer folks may have a high gate wide enough to allow an elephant with riders to pass through, on the gate would be two small rooms known as *nakar khana* for locating *shahnai* parties during festivals or marriages As Shahabad is notorious for thefts and dacoities many of the houses of the richer section in both rural and urban areas were built like forts and had very small openings to serve as windows at great height from the floor. Many of these mansions and sometimes even mud houses of the well-to-do are built on mounds

Most of the towns are still rural in character and there is not much of a townscape. Towns have been allowed to develop in a rather lop-sided manner and the houses and housing conditions are also variegated The oblique growth is hardly controlled by the municipalities and many living areas are growing out without proper roads or sanitation arrangements. The sanitary conditions are still far behind any modern standard. Congested *bazars*, narrow and ill maintained roads, lanes, slums, etc., are common features. The very fact that the number of lavatories is far less the number of houses is very suggestive Whatever be the reasons, municipal services for health, sanitation and supply of good water are meagre. There are no Improvement Trusts anywhere in the district A more detailed description of the urbanisation of Arrah, the district headquarters has been given separately and will show the trends of urbanisation common to the district.

Furniture, Household Utensils and Decorations.

The last District Gazetteer of Shahabad has the following account regarding furniture and household utensils—"As regards furniture, a cultivator has none but the barest necessaries—a few earthen cooking utensils, and receptacles for water, some pots and jars for keeping his oil, salt, grain, etc ; a small oven (*tawa*) for baking bread, a few brass utensils for eating and washing purposes, a light stone mill (*chakri*) for splitting grain, and a heavy one (*janta*) for grinding flour; two stones, one flat (*sil*) and the other like a roller (*lorha*), for grinding spices, a wooden mortar (*okhali*) and pestle (*musal*), one or two small bamboo receptacles (*petara*); mats made of palm leaves (*chatai*), a rough bed (*khatia* or *charpai*) constructed of coarse string with a bamboo or wooden framework, and one or two cocoanut shell pipes (*narikel*) for smoking He has no chests or other receptacles for keeping ornaments or cash, which are commonly kept concealed under ground in the floor of his house, or in a jar or other utensil containing grain or the like Grain is, however, generally stored in a circular receptacle (*kothi*), with mud

sides and a mud cover. There is usually a recess made in one of the walls, which is kept sacred for the household god; but the god himself is often unrepresented, except by a mark of red paint."*

The utensils and furniture mentioned in the last District Gazetteer continue to be in vogue in the poorer classes. But the richer people have a better set of furniture. They have bedsteads, almirahs, chairs and tables.

Among cooking utensils both in the urban and rural areas mention may be made of metal cooking pots (*tasla*) usually of brass, pewter or copper, iron frying pan (*karahi*), iron baking pan (*tawa*), silver or other metal plates (*thalia*), etc. Crockery of China-clay and cutlery of modern type have come into vogue. Brass or copper pots (called *gagara*) or earthen pots (called *ghara*) are used for keeping drinking water. Copper pots, except for purposes of worship, are seldom used by the Hindus. These are generally used by Muslims. Crockeries of China clay are becoming common.

The poorer classes use more of earthen utensils or metal utensils of cheaper material like aluminium. Aluminium utensils are mostly used by the Muslims and *Harijans*. Aluminium utensils came in vogue in the district since the last three decades. The types and number of furniture in a household depend on taste, and economic status of the family.

It is unfortunate that owing to economic condition most of the houses in the villages or in the towns of the lesser income group serve merely the purposes of a shelter and the expected features of a comfortable home are absent. Decorations are mostly absent. Some of the houses of the richer folk built one or two decades back are marked by clumsy overhanging small balconies, domes and minarets and useless cornices and want of proper lavatories. Architectural designs of houses are changing and plain houses with an eye to personal equation are slowly coming up. Individual gardening has still to develop and there is no lead given in the provision of proper parks and gardens or arboriculture by the Municipalities.

Dress.

The observations regarding dress in the last *Gazetteer of Shahabad* are as follows:—

> "The dress of the people does not differ in any important respect from the costumes worn in the adjoining districts of Gaya and Patna. The better class of Hindus ordinarily wear a piece of cloth (*dhoti*) fastened round the loins and falling to the knee; and over this a long robe (*chapkan*) fastened on the right

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* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), page 53.

shoulder. On the head is placed a light skull-cap (*topi*), and the feet are encased in loose country-made shoes, with the toes curled upwards; sometimes, also, a white scarf (*chadar*) is thrown over the shoulders. The material of the dress differs with the weather. In the hot weather, the robe and cap will be of muslin or some light cloth, but in the cold season, stouter cloth is used for the robe, and the cap is made of velvet or some other warm material. A Muhammadan wears, instead of a dhoti, long drawers (*Paijama*) extending to the ankle, which are often loose, but sometimes very tight, and his robe is buttoned on the left shoulder, but in other respects, his dress resembles that of the Hindu

"On State occasions, Hindus and Muhammadans dress alike. The head-dress now consists of a flat turban (*pagri*), or of one twisted round the head (*muretha*). Loose drawers take the place of the *dhoti;* and outside, a little above the waist, is twisted a long piece of cloth (*kamarband*) Shoes of English shape often take the place of the country slipper. The *kamarband* is frequently dispensed with; and in that case a loose open robe (*choga*), reaching nearly to the feet, is worn or sometimes a shorter but tighter coat, called an *eba*. A Hindu shopkeeper will wear a short jacket (*mirzai*) instead of *chapkan,* but in other respects his dress, though of cheaper materials, will resemble the one just described.

"A cultivator wears only a *dhoti* and a sort of plaid (*gamchha*), which is thrown sometimes round the body, sometimes over the shoulders, and often on the head with one and hanging down the back. A corner of this cloth is often knotted, and used as a sort of purse for keeping spare cash, receipts, etc. The better class of cultivators wear the cap and shoes, but the majority do without them Inside the house, the poorer classes never wear shoes, but shopkeepers often use wooden sandals. The richer classes sometimes put on a loose coat (*kurta*) instead of the *chapkan,* when they are at home. As a protection against the cold, the richer classes wear shawls both when at home and abroad, but the middle classes who cannot afford shawls, envelope themselves in a short of padded cloak (*dulai*).

"Among Hindu women the most important article of dress is the combined wrapper and veil known as the *sari*. This is a long piece of cotton or silk which is wrapped

round the middle, and contrived so as to fall in graceful folds below the ankle of one leg, while it shows a part of the other. The upper end crosses the breast, and is thrown forward again or over the head like a veil The bodice (*kurta*), which fits tight to the shape, and covers but does not conceal the bust, is as indispensable a part of the dress as the outer garment In some cases, where a shorter *sari* is worn, an under-garment (*tahband*) is used to cover the lower part of the figure Musalman women wear drawers (*paijama*), which may be either loose or tight, the bodice (*kurta*) and a sheet (*chadar*), which is put on in the same way as the Hindu sari "*

There has been a material change in dress particularly among the urban population Excepting in the case of the older people the proper Shahabadi dress with that typical big *pagri* almost covering one ear, the typical *kurta* or *mirzai* or *chapkan* and the pair of *chamarua* shoes are fast getting extinct. The long bamboo *lathi* which was almost a part of the dress is now confined to the unsophisticated villagers only

Bush shirts have become very popular after the World War II among the urban people and particularly the educated section. Among the richer rural and urban people the use of *Kurta*, *dhoti* and a sort of buttoned up short coat has become common The stuff of the garment is usually mill made The Congress movement has brought in the *khaddar* or hand spun and hand woven cloth which is however more costly and more worn on principle A kind of tight waist coat commonly known as '*Jawahir Jacket*' has become common Headgear is going out of use Western type of dress is coming back again Youths in schools and colleges are fond of wearing English costumes or at least shirt and a pair of trousers Drain pipe trousers are slowly coming in. The white *khaddar* cap had become very prominent a decade back but is now seen more in meetings and conferences of the Congress Party

Shoes and a sort of sandals known as *chappals* have become popular The lower and middle class cultivators and the villagers still use the same pattern of shoes which is called *panhi*

In the villages there has not been much change in the dress of the women excepting among the educated and upper income-tax group The changes consist in using more of under-garments and modern type of blouses instead of the old type of *jhula*. In the urban areas the women use foot-wear and more of under-garments and modern cut blouses Different modes of wearing the *sari* have come in particularly among the middle classes and the above, both

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad*, 1924, pages 51 52.

in the rural and in the urban areas. In the villages, women of the poorer classes still use the same old type of coarse cloth and *jhula*. Brassiers, bodies and petticoats are becoming common among the women of the middle classes and the classes above.

A smart close-fitting outfit of *salwar*, *paijama* and *kurta* (a light cover for the upper part of the body) has become the favourite dress for the young girls particularly in schools and colleges. This dress is very well suited for undergoing physical training or drill.

Children wear frocks, romper, small shirts and shorts. There is an accent for the streamline in the dress of the children.

Ornaments

The metals used for the ornaments are gold, silver, copper, brass, etc. The tribal folks still use coral ornaments.

The principal indigenous ornaments in the district are *tiara* and *mangtika* for the head, *mala*, *har* and *hansuli* for the neck, *jhumka*, *kanphool*, *bali*, *kanaili* for the ears, *nath*, *nakbesar*, *bulaki*, *nakphool* for the nose, *pahunchi*, *bala* for wrist, *anant* for the arms, *kamardhani* for the waist, *jhanj*, *payal*, *chhara*, *kara*, *panzeb* for the feet. Rings are common for the fingers. The poorer folks have ornaments of brass and copper too.

For the educated class people these antique ornaments have not much use now. A few of them such as *tiara*, *bulaki*, *jhumka*, *bali*, *kanaili*, *hansuli*, *pahunchi*, *anant*, *nath*, *jhanj*, *panzeb*, *chhara*, *kara* have disappeared entirely. *Sautin*, an ornament for the second wife in memory of his predecessor has almost disappeared. *Mangtika*, *nath*, *payal*, *nakbesar*, *karanphool*, *nakphool* are also confined to a very few high caste uneducated people. On the other hand they are still frequently used by the high caste and low caste folks. *Nath*, *mangtika* and an ornament for the neck called *Tak-pat-ka-dholna* is supposed to be auspicious for the Hindus. Some of the common modern ornaments include bracelets, armlets, chains and earrings. Nose ornaments are disappearing. Some time *matarmala* and *chandrahar* and various fashions of chains for the neck are popular. Lighter and less ornated ornaments are preferred.

Males in the urban areas do not normally have ornaments excepting rings, or chains and a wrist-watch. In rural areas the male folks still wear *kanaili*, *anant*, *kara*, and gold chains. Diamonds and a number of stones are used in the ornaments.

The use of pure gold or gold above 14 carats for ornaments will decline because of the Gold Control Order promulgated. At the present moment (March, 1963) there is a great furore over this order which has been promulgated to stop smuggling of gold and locking up money in gold ornaments. But the aim is very essential and there is no reason why there should not be changes in the present craze for gold ornaments.

Food.

The general diet of the common man is deficient in calc Very little of protein food is available because of low econ incidence. Coal and fuel are mainly used for cooking. There i gas cooking. Cooking by electricity is very rare.

Food in this district is almost the same as in the other dist of Bihar. Rice, *atta,* gram, *sattu,* millet, vegetables, lentils, meat and egg are the common items. The cooking media are g mustard oil, and the various edible oils which now include diffe brands of hydrogenated oils. As ghee is becoming more expen hydrogenated oils are in more use. The vegetables are ordina potato, gourds, cucurbita, brinjal, etc, and the other seas vegetables The use of tomatoes and onions is becoming n popular

Rice in different forms and *chapatis* (bread) *of atta, dal* vegetables are the usual daily food for the average man. Vari kinds of savoury food, preparations of meat, fish and eggs, swe curd and other milk products are usually meant for those who afford *Chura* and *dahi* are not so commonly used as in the Tirh districts. More of *sattu* is consumed in this district *Litti,* a s of cake with *sattu* inside is a palatable indigenous item of food this district

Various kinds of condiments are commonly used Shahaba had excellent Muslim cooks who could turn out very palatable dish of meat, fish and eggs, more of Moghle type Cooking as an a particularly the *muglai* dishes has declined

A recent trend is seen in the growing number of wayside hote and restaurants where cooked food is available With the kee servant problem such establishments have a very good sal Recently a number of Punjabi restaurants and Bengali sweetmea shops have cropped up throughout the district. Filthy roadsid eating places have also a remarkable sale

Various kinds of food in packets or bottles are sold in the urba markets particularly. None of these processed food is checke medically. Casual visits to the different markets by our investigator disclosed that there was hardly any check on selling bad meat, fis and vegetables. Adulterated cooking media are also commonly sold There is hardly any check to see if the ground or powdere condiments were adulterated or not

Amusements and Festivities.

The indigenous sources of entertainment are, however, dying out Songs and music have a great fascination for the rural people The lyrics of ancient saints, *bhajans* or devotional songs accompanie with musical instruments like *jhal, dholak* and harmonium add to the attraction.

Apart from the devotional songs and music there is craze for particular types of songs in tune with seasons. In *Shravan* (July-August) month, *kajri* and *birha* songs are much in vogue *Jatsari* songs are sung by the women folk while grinding the wheel to break the grains *Sohar* and *Jhumar* songs are very popular *Sohar* is to mark the birth of a child while *Jhumar* is a synthesis of music and dance Pastoral songs are sung by the women labourers while trans-planting paddy seedlings At *Holi* time songs with an erotic slant are common Many of the songs are rich in thought and are great specimens of a delicate web of words

Dancing by boys in the garb of females is very common in the villages This is a must in most *Barat* parties even if there are no dancing girls *Chaita* which is accompanied by song and dance by such boys attract large crowds at nights in summer months.

The *melas* and fairs are common in the district These *melas* serve a great trade purpose specially of cattle Some *melas* have a religious or economic origin There has been a touch of modern-ism to many of these *melas* and fairs The songs and dances propa-gated by many of the artists, roving cinemas, social dramas, *ramlila* and *nautanki* plays are the usual features of the *melas* and fairs The *melas* have a tremendous social and economic value in the district They have a particular attraction for the ladies Most of the *melas* have a religious background and are centred round temples

Football matches and wrestling have also a great hold on the rural public Regular theatres are not very common But during some particular festivals like *Durgapuja* and *Holi*, a stage is often fixed up in the big villages and towns and dramas are performed Such dramas always attract a crowd In towns cinemas attract many people of both rural and urban areas Hindi cinema songs have now entered into the villages of the district The young generation pays more attention to the cinema hits than the *kirtans* and *bhajans*

In the towns of the district there are better facilities for amuse-ments and recreations but of a monotonous character The student population which is increasing in the towns of the district has very little engagement in the evening time. The majority of the students either roam about or congregate near the tea shops, betel shops, or restaurants or visit cinema shows The towns do not have adequate playing grounds, parks or centre of cheap amusement and recreations There are hardly any permanent organisations for cultural shows or recreations There are very few libraries

It is a peculiar feature to find students travelling on the railways without ticket on festivals or where important conferences are held as a sort of amusement or recreation Student indiscipline has found out other sources of evil amusements and recreations which need not be dwelt on here The fact that police arrangements have to be made elaborately where women congregate is an indicator.

Festivals.

Festivals form a part of the daily life of the Hindus and the Muslims particularly in the rural areas. Urban life does not pay much heed towards the observation of the festivals. The importance of the festivals in the social life has been recognised by the very large number of holidays observed by both the Central and State Government offices. There are religious ceremonies, fastings and offering of prayers associated with most of the festivals. *Janmastami, Sivaratri, Ramnavami, Tij, Jitia, Chhath* besides *Durgapuja, Deepawali* and *Holi* are some of the important festivals for the Hindus. *Durgapuja* is celebrated in the month of Asin (October-November). The *puja* season starts from the first day of the bright of *Asin* month and completes on the tenth day. The goddess Durga is worshipped mainly but other gods and goddesses are also worshipped in certain areas during the season. *Deepawali* is celebrated on the fourteenth and fifteenth day of *Kartik*. It is a festival of lights. Houses are decorated with small earthen lights or with electric lights now and *Lakshmipuja* is celebrated. Various mythological episodes are associated with the festivals of *Holi* which is celebrated at the beginning of the spring (March-April). *Holikadahan* is celebrated on the full moon day of *Phalgun* month. On the next day the colour festival is observed and people make merry by sprinkling coloured water on one another. There is a wave of indiscipline and a sort of goondaism during this time.

The Moharram processions in Arrah are taken out with great enthusiasm. They are a bigger event in Sasaram. In Sasaram the biggest *Tazia* is of Kota village. Nearly 30 processions are taken out and through Nawratan they go by Sher Shah Rowza and tank to Karbala. At Nawratan they present picturesque sight by passing in order one by one with their *Akharas*.

Moharram, Shabe-barat, Ramzan Id, Bakrid and *Fateha-dawaz dahum* are celebrated to commemorate the death of the grandson of the prophet Mohammad who was killed in the battle of Karbala in Arabia. The Shia Muslims particularly hold this festival with great sanctity. *Tazias* are made and taken in processions in the memory of the departed soul. *Shabe-barat* is celebrated on the fourteenth day of *Shaban*. On this day Muslims visit the tombs of their ancestors and offer prayer. They offer prayer and read *Koran* the holy book of the Muslims on that very night. *Ramzan* is the month of fasting according to *Koran*. There is a religious obligation on an adult Muslim to observe fast for one whole month. On the eve of breaking the fast each day after sunset they assemble in congregation in a mosque to offer prayer. *Id* is celebrated on the succeeding day of the last *Ramzan* or after seeing the moon. It is the day of rejoicing as it comes after a month's fasting. *Bakrid* is celebrated

in the memory of the prophet Ibrahim Khalil Ullah *Fatiha-duaz dahum* is celebrated on the twelfth day of *Rabi ul-aul*. On this day the birth anniversary of the prophet Mohammad is celebrated by the Muslims.

At the time of *Gopastmi* after Dewali big processions are taken out in Sasaram town. The main procession starts from Sasaram *Gaushala* where *Gopastmi mela* is also held.

The Jains and the Arya Samajists have their special festivals which are keenly observed. The Brahmos observe the 11th *Magh* for special congregational prayers. It is on this day that the Brahmo church was founded.

The Christians observe Christmas day, New Year, Easter, etc.

The Sikhs observe the birthday of Guru Gobind Singh as a festival day.

Communal Life.

In any discussion of communal life of Shahabad district the unfortunate outburst of communal differences from the second decade of this century cannot be ignored. It is particularly necessary to recall them because the district as a whole was not disturbed in the communal disturbances of 1946 following the partition of India and the creation of Pakistan. This shows that the district is now apparently free from the virus that had broken out in 1917, 1926 and 1936. It had also been mentioned that a number of Muslims particularly from Sasaram subdivision had migrated to Pakistan.

Communal Differences

Regarding the Hindu-Muhammadan riots of 1917 the last *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) mentions as follows:—

> "The agitation which had thus appeared in 1893 continued to show its effects from time to time, in strained feelings between Muhammadans and Hindus at the Bakr-Id festival, and in occasional raids on cattle intended, or believed to be intended, for the butchers of Dinapore. During the Great War, the feeling became intensified, until the time of the Bakr-Id festival in 1917, when it broke out in riot on an exceptionally large scale. The first disturbance occurred at Ibrahimpur near Piru on the morning of September the 28th, when a large body of Hindus from a distance attacked and looted the village, although there had been a compromise between local Muhammadans and Hindus on the question of the Bakr-Id sacrifice. These rioters dispersed as quickly

as they had appeared, and since the compromise had been in effect broken, the Muhammadans performed cow-sacrifice according to their custom. On the morning of the 30th a mob of Hindus which was estimated to number more than twenty-five thousand attacked Ibrahimpur, Piru and the neighbouring villages, and it was only dispersed after a hand-to-hand contest with the police, in the course of which much looting was done and the police station attacked. Strong reinforcements of Military Police were hurried into the district, and for thirty-six hours, there was an outward calm. On October the 2nd, without further warning, rioting and looting broke out simultaneously over the greater part of the district. For six days law and order disappeared. Large mobs appeared everywhere, attacking Muhammadans, destroying their houses, and looting their property. In the south of the district Muhammadan villagers put up a plucky resistance; and desperate fights attended by bloodshed occurred at Mauna and Turkbigha. The mobs were in many cases led by small *zamindars*, who directed the proceedings from elephants or from horseback and contained a large element of the more influential Hindus of the countryside, including Brahmans, Rajputs, Babhans and Kayasthas. The strong detachments of troops which had reached Arrah had at first great difficulty in getting to close quarters across water-logged country with the numerous mobile bodies of rioters, who were well served by their spies; but resistance collapsed as soon as it became possible to establish mufassal military posts and connect them with patrols along the main roads."*

Regarding the communal disturbances in Sasaram between 1924-1936, the Superintendent of Police, Shahabad, has sent the following report† —

"The communal situation in Sasaram town and in the neighbouring rural areas started deteriorating from 1924, ultimately resulting in a serious communal riot in 1926 when organised mobs of Hindus from neighbouring villages Belarhi, Shikaria, Senduar, Kathpurwa and Semri raided Sasaram Town at night in order to retaliate against the Muslims. Details of this communal riot have not yet become available.

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* The District Gazetteer of Shahabad (1924), pages 45-46.

† Vide his letter no. 1146, dated the 5th June 1962.

"2. After the communal riot in 1926, additional police of one Inspector, two S-Is, four Head Constables and fifty Constables were quartered in Sasaram town from 15th May, 1926 to 31st July, 1927 The communal situation in Sasaram town even during the period when the additional police was quartered, was far from satisfactory. On many occasions clashes between the two communities were imminent and were prevented from developing into a major communal riot by the local magistracy and the police officers and the additional police with great strain This tension and serious ill-will between the two communities continued from 1926 to 1936, a period of 10 years, culminating in a serious communal riot at Sasaram town on the night of 24th November, 1936 Absence of any responsible leader of high caste among the Hindu community and the frequent intervention by Arya Samaj and Hindu Mahasabha people on religious occasions was the cause for provocation to the Muslims The extreme bigotedness particularly among the lower strata of Muslims and outside influences coupled with distribution of anonymous and pseudonymous Urdu posters of objectionable character issued in the name of heads of religious institutions served as provocation to the Hindus Many secret meetings were held by both the communities to evolve measures of retaliation against the other community for some act done or rumoured to have been done by them and thus setting a chain of reaction

"3. The communal riots of April, 1926, left a deep scar on the minds of both the communities and although the situation was brought under control, both the communities harboured a serious grievance and animosity against each other As early as July, 1926, tensions began to be reported between the two communities After this, a series of incidents took place between 1926 to 1936, particularly on the occasion of religious festivals of both the communities Some of the causes which started off these repeated incidents were music before mosque particularly during prayer time stray case of conversion which was publicised in order to whip up feelings, carrying of arms and giving demonstrations of sword-play by the Akharas during Muharram, Dasahara and Gopastami processions, differences over routes to be followed by the processionists These causes frequently led to tensions between the two communities Other frequent causes were difference over graveyard in any place, any piece

of stone resembling the Shiv-Lingam which happened to be found in the land owned by Muslims or any graveyard claimed to be Shivalaya by the Hindus. The Muslims would either claim it to be a *"Chirag Dan"* or proceed to uproot it or throw it away. This always brought the two communities to imminent clash which was averted with great difficulty.

"4. Such tensions continued throughout 1926 to 1927. During this period sometime in 1927, a serious communal riot took place in Bettiah, district Champaran and this also aggravated the situation. In 1927, there were tensions on the occasion of Holi, Bakr-Id and Dasahara. After the withdrawal of the additional police in July 1927 the situation became worse. After the Bettiah riots a highly objectionable Urdu poster purported to be signed by Nizam Imarat Sahib of Phulwarisharif enjoining the Muslims to observe Bettiah day on 16th July, 1927 by holding mammoth meetings at every mosque after Jumma prayers was circulated. This also made the situation worse at times.

"5. In 1928 Hindu leaders issued a provocative leaflet in January 2 calling on the Hindus to stand up for the safety of the religious rites and the mother cow. This had its repercussions during the Muharram that year when an imminent clash was averted by the presence of the District Magistrate, Superintendent of Police and a strong armed force. Persons released in cases of communal riots of 1926 also added to the tension at that time. The trouble during Dasahara this year was created by the Hindus.

"6. In 1929 there was a communal tension during Basant Panchami. In 1930 there was serious tension during Bakr-Id and over the repair of Karbala. In 1931 February tension arose due to communal riots in Benares and both the communities began to feel that they had been victimised in the Benares riots and members of their community had been killed in larger numbers. During later portion of 1931, there was a lull in the communal disturbances due to the pre-occupation of both Muslims and Hindus in the Civil Disobedience Movement. From February 1932, however, communal trouble again started and there was also tension during Holi that year. In 1933 there was trouble over a plot of land at village Ashiquepur and conversion of a Brahmin boy to Islam. In 1934, about five miles from Sasaram, a minor rioting took place between Muslims and Dusadhs and Koeries over

beating of drums during prayer time in village Amri In 1934 also communal tension prevailed during Gopastami festival Bakr Id 1935 passed through a tense atmosphere

'7 On the night of 23rd November, 1936 during the passage of Gopastami procession, there was a sudden outbreak of serious communal riot The Gopastami processionists were passing through Mohalla Madar Darwaja and Alamganj Although the processions were due to be taken out on 22nd November, 1936, the Hindus refused to take out the procession because of the imposition of the condition in the license restricting music before mosque at prayer time Eventually processions were taken out on the following day on the 23rd after the deletion of the condition from the license, but their imposition, all the same, in a separate undertaking While the processions were passing a stray case of stabbing in a by-lane close to the Shahi Mosque in Mohalla Madar Darwaja and the pelting of some stones over the Singhasan of the processionists, threw a crowd of 15,000 Hindus taking part in the procession into red hot fury As a consequence of the above two incidents they suddenly and wantonly began to batter Muslim houses, and mosques A crowd of Muslims attempted to break through a by-lane near Alamganj mosque but was prevented from coming to a clash with the Hindus by the pluck, courage and resourcefulness of Shri P C Roy Choudhury the then Second Officer at Sasaram With the greatest difficulty the handful of local police and officials managed to disperse the crowd The communal riot took a toll of four lives-two Hindus and two Muslims Thirty four others were injured seriously which included both Hindus and Muslims Three local officials also received minor injuries in dispersing the unruly mob The crowd was dispersed and immediately section 144, Cr P C was clamped in the town prohibiting carrying of lathies and weapons and congregation of more than five persons For quite a few days after this riot, the whole town was in a state of great panic, shops remained closed and business was entirely suspended Patrolling by the M M P and armed police and other law and order measures were restored after 5 6 days The Hindu processionists who had taken part in the rioting comprised of large number of people from the neighbouring villages wherefrom Singhasan had been brought to take part in the Gopastami procession"

Though there has been local tension at some places, the two communities have lived together peacefully. The communal riots of 1946 did not affect the district. The communal riots in East Pakistan or in Calcutta, Jamshedpur, Rourkela and other places in 1963-64 did not have repercussions in this district and though vigilance had to be kept.

PILGRIM CENTRES.

The pilgrim centres in the district are—

Sadar subdivision.

Aranya Devi Asthan in Arrah town.—The legend is that the Pandavas came to this place while they were in exile. The area was a great forest (*Aranya*-Jungle) and the Pandavas installed the idol of a goddess and worshipped her. Since the idol was installed in the forest, it was known as *Aranya Devi*. It is said that with the passage of time the word *Aranya* has been metamorphosed into Arrah. During *Ram Navmi* a *mela* is held when thousands of people congregate and worship the goddess.

Bisram in Arrah town.—It is said that Lord Mahavira, the last Jain *Tirthankar,* took rest for some time at this place during his wanderings. Hence this place is called *Bisram* (rest). The Jains from every part of the country visit this place throughout the year. It contains an idol of the Lord Mahavira. For the accommodation of the Jain pilgrims there are two Jain *dharamshalas.*

There are about 45 Jain temples in Arrah.

Sidh Asthan in Arrah town.—It is said that in ancient time when the river Ganga used to flow by the side of the Arrah town, there lived a saint at the place where at present mohalla Bintoli is located. The saint had attained a high spiritual perfection and had his *samadhi* here. To perpetuate his memory, the people of the locality built a Shiva temple there and offered oblation. The other legend is that one Raja Bali had erected the temple.

A *mela* is held here every year on every *Sawan Sombari* day. About two to three thousand people congregate here to worship. It is said that austere and sincere worship will fulfil one's desire and that is why the place is called *Sidhsthan*, the place where one's desire is fulfilled.

Masar temples.—There is a Shiva temple at village Masar which is situated seven miles west from Arrah town and the nearest railway station of this place is Karisath on the main line of the Eastern Railway. The distance of this place from the railway station is one mile. A *mela* is held here every year on the occasion of *Makar Shankranti* in which thousands of people congregate and offer oblation. The *mela* lasts for about four days.

There is also a Jain temple in the village. The Jains attach a great importance to the said temple. Masar has been covered in the text "Places of Interest".

Sinha and Koilwar—At village Sinha which is situated on the bank of the river Ganga, *melas* are held on the occasion of *Kartik Purnima, Baisakh Purnima* and on eclipse day when thousands of people visit and take their bath in the Ganga

At Koilwar which is situated on the bank of the river Sone a big *mela* is held on the occasion of *Shankranti*. A large number of people take bath in the river.

Bihea.—There is a Mahthin Dai temple at Bihea It is said that there used to be a famous Raja named Ran Pal Singh. He was a tyrant and used to take *dola* which means that he used to compel every newly married bride to pass her first night after marriage with him. There was a bride named Mahthin Dai who refused to obey him. This resulted into a severe clash with the tyrant and Mahthin Dai and her supporters The tyrant Raja was killed But, the bridegroom was also killed in the encounter and the bride observed *Sati* and burnt herself with her groom Since then she is worshipped A *mela* is held here on every Tuesday. About two to three thousand women congregate here

Buxar subdivision.

Barahampur—There is a Shiva temple at this place A *mela* is held here in February and April in which people from all parts of India congregate There is a description in the text "Places of Interest".

Buxar—Buxar had been the home of many saints and writers who composed Vedic hymns and the place was originally called Vedagarbha It is said that during the Treta *Yuga,* Ramji incarnated and saved the Brahmans of this place from the atrocities committed by the demons and killed the demoness Taraka There is a temple of Ramji here called Rameshwar Nath Mahadeva A *mela* is held on the 14th January and 14th April every year and on eclipses when people from neighbouring districts congregate and take bath in the river Ganga and worship in the temple Besides this, there is another temple (the temple of Gaurishankar) near which there is a tank called Baghsar from which the name of the town is said to have been derived This temple of Gaurishankar is visited by the pilgrims when they come to the *mela* There is a large number of temples in Buxar which are of local importance. *Ramrekha ghat* of this town in the river Ganga is considered to be a most sacred *ghat* for bathing as on this *ghat* the idol of Bhagwan Shankar was installed by Bhagwan Ramchandra. The temple still exists. People in large number take bath on this *ghat* on all important festivals. The description of Buxar in the text "Places of Interest" may be seen.

Ahirauli—The temple of **Ahalya Devi** at Ahiraun village is situated two miles from Buxar town. It is said that Ahalya was the wife of the saint Gautam. She was turned into stone by the wrath of her husband, but she regained life when Shri Ramchandra came to this place and touched the stone with his feet People regard it as a very sacred place and worship the idol. A *mela* is held here every year on the occasion *Khichari* festival when thousands of people congregate

Sasaram subdivision

Sasaram—There is a temple of Mahavira (quite distinct from the Lord Mahavira of the Jains) in Sasaram town The idol installed in it is called *Jagta* Mahavira It is called *Jagta* because it is believed that any one who prays for anything before it, gets it. People congregate in the temple on every Tuesday throughout the year

Sasaram has also *Gurudwara* for the Sikhs The description of the place in the text "Places of Interest" may be seen

Bhaluni—It is said that the father of Parvati while performing a *Jagna* did not invite Shiva The *Jagna* was destroyed and Parvati burnt herself as she found that Lord Shiva was insulted There is a temple of Parvati at Bhaluni village near Bikramganj where a *mela* is held here in October and April It attracts about ten thousand persons.

Gupta Mahadeo—The temple of Gupta Mahadeo is situated in the caves of Gupteshwara (Kaimur hills) There is a legend that these hills were the abode of demons A demon named Bhasmasura became very powerful as he had the assurance from Shiva that any person on whom he would put his hand would be reduced to ashes Narad told the demon that he was deceived and should try his hand on Shiva's head The demon chased Shiva up the hills and delayed till the latter reached and hid in Gupteshwara cave Vishnu came to Shiva's rescue and accosted the demon "If you doubt the truth of the boon, why do you not put your hand on your own head and try?" He did so and was immediately reduced to ashes

Gupteshwara consists of two caves one followed by the other The entrance to the main cave is through an arch way The first cave is damp and slippery and ends in a steep descent In the second cave there are numerous stalactites on one of which water continuously drips from the roof of the cave This stalactite is worshipped as the god Mahadeo and attracts hundreds of pilgrims throughout the year *Melas* are held here every year on the occasion of *Basant Panchami* and *Shivaratri* days. Thousands of people congregate here in the *mela* It is a distance of about 10 miles from Sasaram.

There is a mosque nearby. Several persons go to worship in Tara Chandi temple. There is a Buddhist inscription on the hill nearby.

Bhabua Subdivision.

Chainpura.—This is a village seven miles west of Bhabua town. Within the ramparts of the Mahammadan fort at Chainpur, there is a small Hindu shrine where a piece of stone is worshipped under the name of Harshu Braham (Brahaman or Brahamanical ghost). The story runs as follows:—Harshu Baba, a Kanaujia Brahman, was the family priest of Raja Salivahana of Chainpur. The Raja had two queens one of whom became jealous of the priest and wanted to destroy him. One night the queen and the Raja saw a light aloft in the sky from the upper storey of the house of the Brahman. The Rani told the Raja that the priest had design of ousting the king from his kingdom. The Raja thereupon demolished the house of the priest and confiscated all his lands. The Brahman thereupon did *dharna* that is, observed fast till he died at the palace gate. When they took his dead body for cremation to Banaras (Varanasi), they found Harshu standing in his wooden sandals on the steps of the burning *ghat*. He informed them that he had become a *Braham* or Brahman ghost. In *Ram Navami* a *mela* is held here in which people from all parts of India come.

Mundeshwari.—The oldest Hindu temple in Bihar is the temple of Mundeshwari, which stands on the summit of an isolated hill, six hundred feet above the plain and close to the village Ramgarh, seven miles south-west of Bhabhua. Lord Shiva is worshipped here There is a description of Mundeshwari temple elsewhere.

There are a large number of temples in the district of Shahabad where the local people congregate for oblation. Some of the more noteworthy of these temples are—

Kastei Mahadeo Shiva temple, Babui Mahadeo Shiva temple, the Shiva temple at village Bendu P. S Rohtas, Tara-chandi temple at Sasaram, etc

So far as the Muslim pilgrimage is concerned there is not a single place of pilgrimage in the district. However, there are several *mazars* of saints and *makhdums* scattered throughout the district where *urs* is held by the people of the locality which are not generally attended by outside pilgrims There are *mazars* at Bihea, Sasaram Bhabhua, Arrah, etc, where *urs* are held and *chadars* are placed on the *mazars* Usually only the local people congregate and offer *fatiha* at these places.

The tomb of Sher Shah in Sasaram is an interesting archaeological relic which is visited nearly throughout the year by a few foreign and many Indian sight-seers.

The tomb of *Makhdum* Sherfuddin *Alaihe-Rahmat*, about 1½ miles north-east of Bihea, is also of great importance. It is said that the great *Makhdum* Saheb passed about 12 years of his life in the jungle of Bihea One very interesting incident attributed to him runs as follows —Once he felt hungry and while searching for something to eat, he came across a cowherd and requested him for some milk. The cowherd regretted that none of his herd was milch cow, upon which the unusual *fakir* made a suggestion to milk one of the heifers. The cowherd was amused with the suggestion and to prove that the suggestion was quite absurd, he started milking the heifer. But to his utter bewilderment, the heifer did yield milk.

Recreation Clubs and Associations.

Recreation clubs in the proper sense of the term normally exist only in the towns. They cater for men of leisure and who have some money to spend on their recreation. There are a few recreation clubs in the towns of Arrah, Buxar, Sasaram, Bhabhua and Dalmianagar. These clubs provide for indoor and outdoor games and are useful for the purposes of social get-together. The membership varies and depends on the importance of the towns. Most of these clubs are patronised by the Government officers, firm employees, lawyers and people from the other walks of life. It is, indeed, unfortunate that due to financial embarrassment most of these clubs have very little of outdoor games and mostly they are meant for gossip, playing of cards, or other indoor games and use of the books in the library.

Arrah Club appears to be the oldest of the recreation clubs in Shahabad district. It came into existence in 1891 by the amalgamation of the then three clubs, namely, (*a*) Lawn Tennis Club, (*b*) Racket and Billiards Club, and (*c*) Book Club When the clubs were amalgamated the members were almost exclusively Europeans whether in Government or other services or in plantations. The Racket Court is still in existence as a remnant of the past. The club has a spacious building with a compound but the building is kept in bad repairs. There is a very small library and it was gathered that most of the books in the older clubs have disappeared. Very few people now play billiards or tennis although Bridge, Rummy and other card games appear to be very popular The club has a very poor membership. In 1963 there are 31 members which is a poor record for a town of the importance of Arrah. Another club, namely, Shahabad Club was amalgamated with Arrah Club some time after 1947.

Rotary Club.

The Rotary Club of Arrah was inaugurated on the 23rd November, 1957, and a charter was granted on the 27th December, 1957. It was started with 31 members. At present (1963) there are

20 members. The membership fee of the club is rupees ten per month. It is functioning in a private building at Arrah. This is a service club which meets on every week. The Rotary is a world organisation and the programme is to encourage and foster the "Ideal of Service" as a basis of worthy enterprise and in particular, to encourage and foster—

(1) The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service,

(2) High ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition of the dignity of all useful occupations,

(3) The application of the idea of service before self by every Rotarian to his personal, business and community life,

(4) The advancement of international understanding, good-will and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional men inspired by the same ideal

The clubs at Buxar, Sasaram, Bhabua and Dalmianagar usually thrive if Government officers at the station take interest in them. The number of members in these clubs is small and the readership in club libraries is smaller. A few persons usually collect in the evening, discuss politics, current affairs, etc and play cards. The Dalmianagar Club is on a better footing and enjoys the patronage of the Rohtas Industries There is also a Rotary Club and a Lion's Club at Dalmianagar

It may be mentioned that besides the clubs meant for the officers and the persons of somewhat leisurely means, there are also a few other modest clubs which cater for the people of smaller income group These clubs also provide indoor games and a social get-together.

The industrial belt in Shahabad district has now a few important places such as Tilouthu, Banjari, Amjhor and Pipardih Small clubs are growing up in these places where the supervisory staff usually meet

It is rather unfortunate that most of the clubs cater only for menfolk. In some of the clubs in the industrial zones like Dalmianagar and in Arrah ladies do visit the clubs, but the number is extremely poor

Recreation clubs do not exist as such in the villages. The Community Development Blocks, however, have attempted to sponsor some community centres which serve the purposes of a club to some extent. The labour welfare centre mentioned elsewhere also serves the purposes of a recreation club to a considerable extent. Every labour welfare centre including Dalmianagar has got one and has arrangements for indoor games, social get-together, newspapers, etc. Cinema shows are held which are very popular.

Sports.

For the advancement of the sports the Shahabad District Sports Association was established in 1941 with the District Magistrate as President and Subdivisional Officer of Sadar subdivision as Secretary. From 1950 the non-officials were elected as the Secretary of this Association. This Association is affiliated to Bihar Sports Association which is affiliated to All-India Sports Association. This Association had no playground of its own prior to 1961. In 1961 for the first time the Association got the playground and received a grant of Rs. 6,000 from Government. The Association receives financial help from the Government.

Besides the abovementioned clubs, there are 13 registered and two unregistered clubs in the district. They are: (1) Shahabad Heros Athletic Club, Arrah, (2) Shahabad Sporting Club, Arrah, (3) Arrah Electric Athletic Club, Arrah, (4) Shahabad United Police, Arrah, (5) Friends Eleven Football Club, Arrah, (6) Diamond Club, Koilwar, (7) Koilwar Football Club, Koilwar, (8) Dumraon Athletic Club, Dumraon, (9) Shri Kuar Singh Club, Buxar, (10) Dalmianagar Football Club, Dalmianagar, (11) Dehri Football Club, Dehri, (12) Kalyanpur Football Club, Banjari, and (13) Bhabua Sporting Club, Bhabua. Shershah Football Club, Sasaram and Bhabua Football Club, Bhabua are unregistered Clubs

The following are the registered tournaments of the district:—(1) League Championship Tournament, Arrah, (2) Durga Devi Football Tournament, Dalmianagar, (3) Heroes Challenge Cup Tournament, Arrah, (4) Dr. Raghubir Singh Memorial Football Tournament, Dumraon, (5) Kuar Singh Trophy Tournament, Buxar, and (6) Ansari Gold Cup Tournament, Dehri

In addition to these well-known clubs and tournaments, there are a number of minor clubs not only in towns but also in remote villages.

There are quite a few popular games and sources of recreation in the countryside The most popular of the games is card-playing There are various types of card-play and some of them are played on stakes and some are akin to gambling Chess is losing its hold due to the decline of the leisured class who could devote hours to this game. A number of games played with dice and board are very common and some of them are *Pachisi, Ramtir, Chausar, Bagh-Bakri, Naugotia,* etc Among physical games *Kabaddi* and *Chika* are popular Gymnastics used to have a larger hold on the young men in the villages a decade back. Fighting of rams used to be very popular and there used to be baits on the winner Wrestling was more patronised before when the *zamindars* as a class supported the wrestlers It was very common for the *zamindars* and the rich aristocrats to maintain one, two or more wrestlers who would also be

employed on the sly for terrorising the tenants and others. Wrestling has a tremendous hold on the mass mind even now although the wrestlers are on the decline. The decline of wrestling is also due to the high prices of foodstuff and the economic struggle that the average man is faced with. Abolition of *zamindari* has dealt a severe blow to the patronage of the wrestlers, singers, dancers and other types of artists. Pig-sticking and *shikar* of game birds and wild animals were more confined to the Europeans and to the richer Indians. Pig-sticking has completely died out and *shikar* is now almost prohibitive because of the very high prices of cartridges and the restrictions on wild life It is also a fact that the game birds and the annual avifauna visitors which were prized by the average *shikari* have declined in number and variety

Football has a great hold on the village boys and in the football season they rig out a team In Shahabad district there is not much of hockey, cock-fighting and cricket. Expensive sports like tennis, cricket and hockey are losing their popularity in the countryside because of the initial expenditure such games involve. Polo, pig-sticking and golf have died out. Shahabad was once famous for its excellent horses and keen riders It was a common sight two decades back to see rural litigants coming to the courts on their horses or travellers going from one village to another at a great distance on their horses A Shahabadi Rajput of some means without his horse would almost have been an anathema two or three decades back.

The schools in the villages have encouraged football which as mentioned before has been taken up by non school going children in the villages. The District Sports Association with headquarters at Arrah encourages various types of sporting activities like flat race, cycle race, javelin-throw, etc. But definitely the activities of the District Sports Association have not percolated to the village. Swimming was also a common sport once before. Kite-flying is not confined to the youngsters only.

It is unfortunate that most of the sources of recreation and amusement in the urban areas stand a great competition with the cinema houses. Boys of schools and colleges have imbibed a craze for seeing picture and this is mostly due to the fact that the schools and colleges do not provide sufficient recreation for them in the evening. Going round *Pan* shops and standing by them for hours, and idle gossips seem to have become almost a bane with them but this is mostly due to the existing circumstance where they have no recreation in their educational institutions. Itinerant cinema concerns go round the big villages and *melas* and attract a large crowd although the fare catered is of a very cheap type. *Nautanki* and *Mushairahs* (Poets' competition) had a great hold on the district. In the winter, circus parties occasionally visit the towns or big villages. Of late there has been a craze for organising exhibitions where various commodities are

sold but the chief attraction is in the game booths and dances which go by the name of carnivals. An investigation was made and it was found that the students form almost 50 per cent of the visitors at such carnivals while almost the other 50 per cent was made up by the rickshaw-pullers, labourers, *Pan-Biri* shopkeepers, etc.

The villages in this district do not as a rule have any institution like the *Bhagavat Ghar* as in Orissa or in Assam. In those regions usually the villagers or at least a large percentage of the elders meet at the *Bhagavat Ghar* in the evening and have religious discourses, social gossips and frequently hold *kirtan*. But the villagers in this district are very fond of hearing recital of Ramayana and other religious books (*kathas*) and attend communal Satnarayan *pujas*. The religious *melas* are a great source of relaxation and recreation particularly for the ladies. The *melas* and pilgrim centres have been covered elsewhere. The Muslims have *milads* and frequent religious discourses.

Economic and Professional Groups and Classes in relation to Social Life.

There has been a shift in the economic and professional groups and classes in relation to social life in the course of the last three or four decades. Till the Second World War, the people of this district had a more or less division into economic groups and each of this group played a particular role in the social life. Broadly speaking, the groups consisted of the *zamindars* and the aristocratic propertied classes, the professionals like lawyers, doctors, teachers, etc., who formed the brain trust of the district whether they were rich or not, the service-holders who commanded great respect (as a Government servant at that time meant a hallmark of prestige and even a man who could keep several employees on 100 rupees pay would accept a Government service fetching the same amount), the businessmen who were more tolerated than regarded, the teeming cultivators and the labourers including the landless ones and the other manual workers like the potters, blacksmiths, oilmen, etc. The hierarchy of the social ladder was like a pyramid. The cultivators and the labourers that formed the bulk of the population supplied the base while the aristocratic *zamindars* who could be counted by the finger were at the apex. Just before the Second World War industrialism was brought into Dehri area and a sugar mill and a cement factory were set up. Industrialists as a class did not exist although there were a few pioneers working the lime-stone quarries of the Kaimur Hills and the factories at Dehri and a sugar mill at Bikramganj.

In the pre-war years the administrative set up was rather totalitarian and the bureaucracy almost set the tune of the social groupings. The rich aristocrats, the titled persons, the Rajas and the big *zamindars*, the chairmen of the Local Bodies, Government Pleaders and Public Prosecutors and the *Darbaris* counted most and very little

thought was given to the common man. The philanthropy of the aristocratic class was mostly prompted by the bureaucracy and a tradesman or a rich cultivator would have willingly paid several thousands of rupees for getting the privilege of a five-minute interview with the Governor. The professional classes and the businessmen earn quite a lot although the producers did not reap much benefit out of their labours. The cultivators had practically no visible role in the society and it was almost taken for granted that their lot was to toil, to produce crops and often to suffer The landless labourers and the craftsmen merely existed.

A clear picture of the economic and professional groups and classes in relation to social life could be had by drawing upon the arrangements of seats in a *Darbar* at the district headquarters On the dias along with the Governor and the Commissioner of the Division would be seated the Rajas and the Maharajas and one or two titled persons. There would be groupings into A, B and C classes of different blocks and the distinction counted a lot to the invitees If an invitee had once been put in the 'A' block near the Governor and gets a seat in a 'B' block far from the Governor in the second *Darbar*, he would take it an offence and probably he would write to the District Magistrate. After *Darbar* was over, the District Magistrate would distribute *pan* and *itar* to the Rajas and Maharajas and some of the titled persons, and some of his subordinates would distribute to other *Darbaris*. It is also a noteworthy feature that the bulk of the lawyers, teachers and doctors were seldom thought of for an invitation to the *Darbar* A list of *Darbaris* used to be maintained in the District Magistrate's office and the additions and alterations to the list were his special responsibility. The District Magistrate or the Commissioner was a sort of depository of the social consciousness as it were, and they distributed the patronage based on what was thought of as reasonable The common man had no place anywhere within the *Darbar*, and had to take his stand on the road to the *Darbar*. Usually some time before the *Darbar* was to start, the road to the *Darbar* hall would be closed to vehicular traffic. The police would be prominent at every nook and corner The group of politicians belonging to the Congress and to bodies that worked against the British Government would of course be kept away from the *Darbar*

This picture will give to some extent a view of the different groups and classes in relation to social life before the Second World War. On the one hand we have had the acts of generosity of *zamindars* like the Maharaja of Dumraon, Raja of Surajpura, the *zamindars* of Kulhaira, etc., in starting schools, colleges, hospitals, dispensaries, etc., we have also known of oppression by the landlords in certain pockets leading to *Kisan* agitation and other agrarian troubles. The middle classes supplied the brains, used to open the strings as liberally as they could and had sponsored many institutions throughout the district. The middle classes in this district had

supplied successions of great teachers, lawyers, statesmen and administrators. It is the middle classes again that had supplied thousands of personnel to the military and in the police. Shahabad district has always been a great recruiting ground for the defence services. The contribution of the district to culture has come from the middle and the aristocracy

It may be mentioned that caste has played a great role in society. A Brahman, a Rajput, a Kayastha, irrespective of his monetary value or educational qualifications would have good command and a higher position in purely social functions than a richer Koeri or a richer Goala. Caste meant an accepted tradition with a social value just as occupations also meant a particular social standing To the common man a clerk in the Government services getting 100 rupees per month had a bigger social value than a *mahajan* who kept *munshis* paying them 100 rupees a month. A Goala earning a good income by selling his milk and milk products would rather see his son as a clerk or even as a *chaprasi*. In 1936 in Dehri thana there used to be a *Dafadar*, who owned an elephant, working on Rs. 7 per month*. Apparently his estimate of contact with the police through the post of *Dafadar* was very high The prevalence of names such as *Collector* Singh, *Daroga* Prasad, *Sipahi* Singh, *Pistol* Singh, *Mukhtiar* Rai, *Vakil* Singh, *Munshi* Singh, *Dafadar* Singh, *Jamadar* Bhagat, *Havildar* Singh, *Subedar* Rai, *Lat* Singh, etc. will indicate the social values attached to certain salaried posts under the Government.

If a Koiri's son became a *Daroga* or a Magistrate the position of the family would immediately go up very high. Thus there were three main factors that determined the relation of the economic and professional groups and classes to social life They were the bureaucracy, caste and occupation

Then came the Second World War and new forces were generated. Social values underwent a great change and many of the moorings of the society were snapped. A class of people came into prominence and made a good deal of money and many respectable families got into poverty. The working of the various restrictions on the distribution of essential commodities threw up a newly rich class of businessmen, profiteers and blackmarketeers. Prices soared high and political consciousness grew rapidly The onslaught of the Congress, *Kisan Sabha*, and labour parties started weakening the grip of administration. The National War Front and the *Aman Sabha* meetings arranged by the bureaucracy and the loyalists used to be sparsely attended. The hold of the Congress on local politics became quite distinct.

The new factors gave a death blow to the social pyramid. The cultivators and the labourers who form the base and had allowed

* This has been a personal experience of the Editor.

the load of the pyramid to be put on them were shaken up and realised that they had been denied the basic social justice. Once the base was shaken the result was inevitable. The aristocracy at the apex received the most severe shake while the tiers also showed cracks. The classes forming the base were the most restless and started coming up in the forefront

The political changes in the country from 1942 onwards were extremely rapid. The 1942 Movement followed by the 1946 events throughout the country and the withdrawal of the British followed by the Congress regime of the Government gave the finishing touches to the turmoil that had started decades earlier. Politics had never been nearer to the common man in India. The franchise was widened and for the first time, the downtrodden and the ignored masses were wooed to give their votes. The ruling party took politics to almost every village home and thereby setting motion a mighty factor—political consciousness in the masses. The Congress had come to power making certain pledges and one of the pledges was to bring in land reforms that would do away with landlordism. Landlordism was abolished in 1955 and even prior to the abolition there was a reorientation of the economic and professional groups and classes in relation to social life. The shift was clearly underlined by the abolition of *zamindari*

The most prominent feature of the post-abolition of *zamindari* period is the great premium attached to local politics and the local politicians have come into a very great prominence. This prominence is due to the incidence of backing he has from his electorate. Since independence there have been three elections to the Assembly and the Parliament and the results have shown that while some have been thrown up and have risen in the estimate of the public, a few have gone down not for any other ground but because they have lost the election. Factions within the party have had their impact. The man who gets elected has got to be heard in a Welfare State. Since the very character of the administration has been changed from a Police State to a Welfare State, the people's representative has his definite place in a society. In the present set-up when democracy has yet to be established, the politician has a glamour of his own and the people are more conscious of their rights than their obligations. The idea of democracy is often misunderstood and even the spirit of indiscipline is taken to be the spirit of democracy.

The aristocracy and the propertied *zamindars* have been affected very badly. With the abolition of *zamindari* they had a great slump in what was considered a social prestige apart from the decline in financial resources. Many of the ex-*zamindars* who lived in the villages had to leave their villages and urbanisation has had an acceleration. The flow of charity from them has stopped. Many of

them have turned to business. Some of them have become industrialists. It is curious that some of them have now taken leases for working the resources which once belonged to them. A few have entered into politics either as Congressmen or as oppositionists.

The middle classes have had an apparent temporary set-back in social prestige which is often deeply resented by them. The professionals like teachers, doctors and lawyers have had a general set-back in their income. A few of them have, however, come into prominence by taking part in politics. The businessmen and the industrialists have also come into bigger prominence, some by making a lot of money and some by taking part in politics or by pioneering industries.

But the real shift has been in the rural areas where the cultivators, the labourers, the factory hands and the quarry workers live. Politics has gone into the villages and the elections of *mukhiyas* and *sarpanches* are now very keenly fought. The landless labourers are no longer as helpless as they were, as there is no dearth of employment for them. The factory hands are fully alive to the fact that they can bring about strike and bring in a certain amount of turmoil at any time The welfare measures for the Harijans, Scheduled Tribes and the Backward Classes have unfortunately given them a peculiar caste consciousness and the different castes have started organising themselves on caste lines. Elections have often been decided on caste lines. The different prominent castes in the district, namely, Brahmans, Rajputs, Goalas and different subsections of the Harijans have their stronger alliances now and often combine with one another in elections. This emergence of casteism for political consciousness has been a disturbing element, the evil of which has been realised and every attempt has now been made to integrate the society into one unit

In the post war period the emergence of the industrialists and the factory labour has been another prominent feature. Industrialisation is more concentrated to the south of the district where the Kaimur Hills have a wonderful mineral and forest resources. The group of industries at Dalmianagar, namely, sugar, paper, cement, hydrogenated oil, chemicals and asbestos products, the group of cement and lime factories at Banjari, the exploitation of lime-stone at various places like Baulia, Pipradih, etc., the tappings of pyrites at Amjhore, the exploitation of bamboos and the other jungle products have come into more prominence. Thousands of labourers are engaged in these industries and labour troubles have become quite common The industrialists and the State Government have made provision for a number of welfare measures for the labourers. The labourers, however, are peculiarly sensitive and they have allowed themselves to be exploited to some extent by different labour unions.

The impact of industrialisation has been remarkable on both the social and political life of the district. The standard of living has definitely gone up among the factory hands and labourers. A certain amount of unrest and dissatisfaction has crept into the society due to this industrialisation and particularly because it is complained that the employment chances of the children of the soil in these industrial concerns might have been better. The potential of the district both for large-scale and small-scale industries and cottage industries is great and it is expected that there will be more of industrialisation.

Another prominent feature of the present decade is that the State Government is now the biggest employer Employment chances have been multiplied many a time than before but the rapid expansion of education has led to a massive strength of the educated unemployed. Government service has not lost all its charms although many of the best boys are now seeking employment in private sector. The expansion of Government machinery has meant the employment of a tremendous force of non-gazetted employees. A very recent tendency is to bring about trade unionism among the non-gazetted employees of the State Government This new factor has not yet found its moorings and its impact on social life is yet to be felt.

CHAPTER IV.

AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION.

Land Reclamation and Utilisation.

"The total land area of the district is 28.2 lakh acres and the population is 26.9 lakhs. The total geographical area per head of the population thus works out to only 105 cents. The total cultivated area is said to be 17.3 lakh acres and *per capita* it comes to 65 cents only. Of the total geographical area of the district, 9.3 lakh acres are under hills, rivers, canals, homestead, village common roads, etc., and are thus not available for cultivation. Current fallows based on average figures for the quinquennium ending 1949-50 amount to 0.8 lakh acres, and the culturable wastes to 0.73 lakh acres. The cultivated lands together with current fallows and cultivable wastes work out to only 72 cents *per capita*. 41 per cent of the total gross cultivated area is under rice. Maize and other cereals and pulses account for 54 per cent and cash crops are grown on 5 per cent of the gross cultivated area. At the time of the last settlement (1907–16), 32 per cent of the gross cultivated area was under rice."* The population according to 1961 census is 32,18,017 which reduces the availability of land per head

In order to reclaim the culturable waste land, the Bihar Waste Land Reclamation, Cultivation and Improvement Act was passed in 1946 The Waste Land Reclamation Section is under the Revenue Department. There is a Waste Land Reclamation Officer for the district with headquarters at Dehri. Manual reclamation of waste lands is encouraged by the distribution of land improvement loans. The following figures of reclamation of waste land were supplied by the Waste Land Reclamation Section of Patna:—

	Total area of culturable waste land (in acres.)	Area of waste land reclamation by manual labour through assistance of L.I. Loan (in acres).	Amount spent as L.I. Loan (in rupees).	Area reclaimed by tractors (in acres).
1951-52	59,000	Not available	63,100	Nil
1952-53	59,000	601	72,325	Nil.
1953-54	59,000	133	8,192	Nil.
1954-55	59,000	400.48	1,364	Nil
1955-56	59,000	464.78	22,300	Nil.
1956-57	59,000	727.46	2,000	Nil.
1957-58	59,000	Nil	500	Nil.
1958-59	59,000	196.53	3,000	Nil.
1959-60	59,000	Nil	Nil	Nil.
1960-61	59,000	Nil	Nil	Nil.
1961-62	59,000	Nil	Nil	Nil.

* *District Census Handbook, Shahabad* (1951), page xii.

The figure of the area of culturable waste land given by the Waste Land Reclamation Section differs from the statistics of 'Bihar in figures which are as follows:—*

1947-48.	1948-49.	1949-50.	1950-51.
79,214	74,633	73,335	72,192

In the *District Census Book of Shahabad* based on 1951 census figures the area of cultivable waste land is shown as 73,149 acres.† In the *Bihar Statistical Handbook* from 1956 the area of the culturable waste land is shown as 59,000‡ but in the Handbook for 1957 it is shown as 36,000**. There is a bewildering variation of figures in different books. The Waste Land Reclamation Section has obviously adopted the figures of the Statistical Handbook for 1956. Whatever be the area the progress of waste land reclamation through manual labour has not been very encouraging It is not known if the loans taken for land reclamation were actually used for that purpose.

From our personal knowledge of the district it is doubtful if the district has got as big an area of 59,000 acres as culturable waste land. The weakness of the statistical base will be corrected only when the Survey and Settlement Operations which are now on conclude.

* *Bihar in figures (published by the Department of Public Relations, Bihar, Patna in 1958)*, page 25.

† *District Census Handbook* (1951), Shahabad, p. 108.

‡ *Bihar Statistical Handbook*, 1956, p 84.

** *Bihar Statistical Handbook*, 1957, pages 86-87.

The statement below will show the classification of area in the district.

Serial no.	1951-52* (acres).	1956-57** (acres.)	1957-58*** (acres.)	1958-59†	1960-61‡
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Total area of the district . .	28 20.032	28,11,000	28,11,000	28,11,000	28,11,000
2. Forest land .. .	Break up figures not given.	6,08,090	6,08,000	..	6,22,000
3. Barren land ..	Ditto	69,000	70,000	.	.
4. Other Garmazrua land	Ditto	2,59,000	2,54,000	.	.
5. Permanent pasture and other grazing land	Ditto	6,000	2,000	..	—
6 Culturable waste other than fallow land	73,149	59,000	36,000	1,77,000 (including fallow lands).	54,000
7. Other fallow land****	.	35,000	24,000	..	1,25,000
8. Current fallows ..	81,137	1,44,000	2,29,000	.	..
9. Net area sown . . .	17,34,752	16,07,000	15,59,000	16,53,000	16,80,000
10. Area sown more than once .	9,40,469	8,85,000	8,12,000	12,32,000	11,77,000
11. *Bhadai* crops .	Figures not given	82,000	97,000	..	..
12. *Aghani* crops .. .	,,	10,78,000	11,60,000	..	..
13. *Rabi* crops excluding orchard .	,,	13,28,000	11,06,000	.	..
14. *Garma* crops	,,	6,000	8,000		..
15. Orchard	39,879	23,000	29,000	28,84,000	28,57,000
16. Total cropped area .	Not available	Not available	Not available		

SOURCE.—* *Shahabad District Census Handbook*, 1954 (p 108)

** *Bihar Statistical Handbook*, 1956 (pp 34-35).

*** *Bihar Statistical Handbook*, 1957 (pp 36-37).

**** Figure for the area N A. for cultivation in 1951 *Census Handbook* is given as 891 115 acres

† *Bihar Through Figures* published by Director of Economics and Statistics, Bihar, 1953, page 25.

‡ *Ibid*, 1961 pages 34-35.

In this district both the irrigated and the non-irrigated areas excepting the hills and forests are well exploited for cultivation In recent years some of the large *jhils* have been dewatered and cultivated. An example is the large *jhil* at Dumraon which was a favourite duck-shooting area in the winter, has now been put to crop and grows excellent *boro* crops which is transplanted and harvested from October to April. Intensive agriculture is also being attempted by what is popularly known as the Package Programme. The Block Development authorities are also trying to extend cultivation and improve the output. The remodelled Sone Canal system has the objective of bringing in more land under cultivation. Horticulture is spreading and orchards are springing up in all parts. Urbanisation and industrialisation have given an encouragement to the extension of green belts. The uplands of the towns now grow vegetables.

Urbanisation and industrialisation have recently spread at the cost of a percentage of the cultivable lands This is, however, a very negligible percentage and cannot affect the agricultural economy of the district.

IRRIGATION.

Agriculture depends mainly on the availability of water at proper time and in proper quantity. Lack or excess of water affects the crop prospects. Agriculture largely depends on rainfall Rainfall is not a dependable source of water and so irrigation facilities are essential. In some areas in the pre-*zamindari* abolition days the *zamindars* used to maintain *ahars* and *pynes* which served the purposes of both irrigation and drainage. Ordinary wells have always been a good source of irrigation. The details of rainfall have been given in the text on 'General'. The average rainfall for the year is 44.5".

A rational distribution of rainfall in different seasons is necessary for proper cultivation and good harvest. Rainfall in the last week of May or the first week of June is beneficial for *bhadai* crops. This helps sowing of the crops Rainfall during the last week of July and first week of August is essential for transplantation of paddy. Rainfall in the month of October determines the yield of paddy and also helps in preparation of land for *rabi* crops and keeps the soil moist for growth of *rabi* though these crops require rain at intervals also for their proper growth and good yield. *Hathia* rains in October in moderation is very useful but an excess of Hathia rainfall may cause a great damage The importance of timely rains has its echo in some well-known proverbs which have been mentioned in the *District Gazetteer of Bhagalpur.**

* *Bhagalpur District Gazetteer* (1962), p 164.

As mentioned elsewhere this district has some distinct natural divisions. The greater part of the southern portion is unfit for cultivation owing to its rocky nature and thick forests in the hills. There are no good provisions for irrigation. Only a few villages are found scattered over the tableland, and sparse cultivation is done in the green valleys adjoining the hills. The valleys have a rich soil, well watered by the springs and produce excellent rice. Wheat, barley and mustard seeds are raised on the fields surrounding their homesteads which are protected by hedges of dry thorns against the ravages of wild pigs and other animals. There is abundance of pasturage during the rainy season. The pasturage becomes dry and arid in the summer but later grows some pulses and other *rabi* crops.

As mentioned elsewhere, the northern portion consists partly of old alluvium in the central tract and partly of newly-formed alluvium in a narrow strip between the old Patna-Buxar road and the Ganga. The tract lying in the Ganga valley is regularly flooded by the Ganga and usually remains under water for nearly four months during the rainy season The Ganga brings with it a very rich soil and fertilizers and spreads them on the banks resulting in good *aghani* crops. The area is thickly populated and is very rich in livestock. Food crops other than rice, such as, wheat, barley, pulse, maize and sugarcane are also grown in rotation

From Hunter's *A Statistical Account of Bengal* it is gathered that in his time the district was generally irrigated through reservoirs (*ahars*), wells and *pynes* (water courses). He mentioned as follows.—

> "The *ahars* are filled partly from the *pynes* and partly by the surface-drainage of the adjacent lands. They are the property of the landowners, who keep them in repair and reimburse themselves by the higher rent they are able to obtain for lands which are watered in this way. The rice crop requires abundance of water at regular intervals, and to make the crop remunerative, the irrigation should be caused by a natural flow of water. The cost of lifting a sufficient quantity of water for the purpose is so great as to neutralise the profits that would otherwise accrue, so that when the cultivators are forced by deficient rainfall to raise water to irrigate their rice crops, they only lift the very minimum sufficient to save it from total destruction, trusting that an early fall of rain may still come. The check caused by an insufficient supply of water at any period of its growth, however, materially affects the outturn of the crop The *rabi* or spring crops are invariably irrigated, except on the low-lying *Khadir* lands along the bank of the Ganges. Wheat and barley generally receive three waterings; peas from two to three; and

gram only one. Poppy requires seven or eight waterings, and sugarcane from six to twelve. According to Captain Heywood, the quantity of water given at one time hardly ever exceeds 6,800 cubic feet per acre, which would cover the surface to a depth of 1¾ inches. He estimates the water required by an acre of wheat and barley at 20,400 cubic feet the quantity required by peas at from 13,600 to 20,400 cubic feet; that required by gram at 6,800 cubic feet: and that required by poppy at from 47,600 to 54,400 cubic feet. The amount of water available for irrigation varies with the rainfall, but is always limited. Consequently, the area cultivated with crops requiring irrigation is also limited."*

The last District Gazetteer (1924) mentioned that the agricultural prosperity of the district depended on artificial irrigation, without which many tracts would be uncultivated, and the land would be unable to grow sufficient food crops to sustain its population. The four great sources of irrigation were artificial reservoirs, wells and the Sone canals all of which helped to supplement the natural supply of water and to compensate for its inadequacy or untimely distribution.†

Ahars are artificial reservoirs suiting the lie of the country and are meant to collect the rain water. These long shallow tanks were protected by small embankments and served as an artificial catchment basin for receiving the water coming down from the adjacent lands. From the *ahars* water channels (*pynes*) are constructed or *pynes* are made to the nearest stream or water-course. The *pyne* system, as observed in the last District Gazetteer (1924) was not so complete and extensive as in Gaya district but served approximately 179, 000 acres The maintenance of the *pynes* was the responsibility of the landlords and the rights of the tenants to the use of water were duly recorded in the *fard—pashi*. According to the last District Gazetteer (1924) private canals were comparatively unimportant in Shahabad, except in the Bhabua subdivision where irrigated 18,000 acres and in the Sasaram thana between the Kaimur Hills and the Sone. The *pynes* in this district are not elaborate works as in Patna or Gaya, but short, serving one or two villages only.

The third source of irrigation, namely, wells irrigated about 84,600 acres as mentioned in the last District Gazetteer (1924). The methods of drawing and distributing the water are common to the whole of Bihar—the use of the *latha* or lever. The use of the two other contrivances or raising water, namely, the *done* and the *satr*,

* W W. Hunter's *A Statistical Account of Bengal*, Vol. XII, p. 249.

† *The District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), pages 74—77.

is limited.* "The *don* is a boat-shaped wooden scoop, attached at one end to a lever which has its fulcrum a little to the side, the lever being weighed at the other extremity with mud. This machine is used for lifting water either from the reservoirs (*ahars*) which are so numerous in the district or from a lower to a higher channel, where water is plentiful and the elevation small. The *sair* is used when the quantity of water remaining is small, it is a triangular basket made of bamboo with the edges raised on two sides, cords are attached to each angle, which are held by two men. These men swing the basket backwards and then bring it sharply down into the water, carrying the swing on until the basket reaches the level of the higher water-channel by which the field is to be irrigated."

The other source of irrigation which was vital for the district when the last District Gazetteer was compiled, namely, Sone canal continues to be vital now as well and will be discussed later.

It is not possible to find out the comparative figures of the area irrigated by *ahars* and *pynes* now. But we have figures of the areas irrigated by wells and the other sources.

The following statement will show the area irrigated (in thousand acres) by different sources from 1957 58 to 1960-61.†

Year.	Government canal.	Private canal.	Tanks.	Tube-wells.	Other wells.	Other sources.	Total area irrigated.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1957 58	656	.	285	13	126	91	1,171
1958-59	695	..	361	..	117	89	1,262
1959-60			Not available				
1960-61	716	Nil	295	58	83	101	1,253

As the head works of the Sone‡ canal system are located in Shahabad district and this system has been the most important source of irrigation in the district from the year it was constructed and particularly because a reorientation of the system has been taken in hand, it is very necessary to give a quotation *in extenso* of the description from the *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924). The old description is of particular interest because of the re-orientation scheme which will follow.

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad*, 1924, p. 77.

† From '*Bihar through figures*' published from Directorate of Statistics, Bihar, from 1957 to 1961.

‡ The river Sone is also mentioned as Son.

The last District Gazetteer mentions:—

"The sources of artificial irrigation just mentioned are, however, of minor importance as compared with the Son Canal system which has by far the greatest value as a factor making for the prevention of famine and the maintenance of continued prosperity among a people so dependent on agriculture and so vitally affected by the vicissitudes of the seasons

"The idea of constructing works which would irrigate the districts bordering on the Son originated in 1853 with the late Colonel C H Dickens, who recommended to Government the construction of a series of reservoirs along the foot of the hills to catch the surface drainage and of canals to lead it over the plains country for use during the dry months. Subsequently, as the result of further investigation, he was convinced that the Son should be the source of supply and that the reservoir scheme was of secondary importance; and the subject was under discussion for several years, the preparation of detailed surveys and estimates being seriously interfered with by the Mutiny. Finally the Government of India decided that the execution of the project should be left to private enterprise, and it was offered to, and accepted by, the East India Irrigation and Canal Company which had already under taken the Orissa and Midnapore canal works. In 1868, however, the interest of the Company was bought by Government for ten and a half lakhs of rupees; and the work of construction was commenced in the following year. Sufficient progress had been made in 1873 to allow of water being supplied, through cuts in the banks of the Arrah canal, to relieve the drought of that year, the canals were completed a few years later, and from the year 1876-77 water was supplied on payment of rates in a regular manner. They carry a maximum volume of 6,700 cubic feet per second, and about 75 per cent of the irrigation lies in Shahabad, 11 per cent in Gaya, and 14 per cent in the Patna district.

Canal system.

"The system derives its supply from an anicut across the Son at Dehri, and the general plan of the works comprises a Main Western canal, branching off from it on the left bank, and a Main Eastern canal branching off on the right. The anicut or weir, which is 12,469 feet long, consists of a mass of rubble stone laid to a

uniform slope and stiffened by walls of masonry founded on shallow wells. Twenty scouring sluices are provided at either flank; and these are fitted with gates which can be opened or closed at any state of the river other than high flood. By means of these gates the level of the water in the pool above the weir can be kept at the height required to feed the canals. The total cost of the anicut, which was begun in 1869 and finished in 1875, amounted to about fifteen lakhs of rupees.

"The total length of the main canals is 209 miles, of the branch canals 149 miles, and of the distributaries 1,235 miles; and in Shahabad there are 123 miles of navigable canals, 149 miles of canals used for irrigation and 897 miles of distributaries. The area provided with distributaries in this district is 1,105 square miles, the gross area commended (1,397 square miles) being contained in a triangle having Dehri for its apex, the East Indian Railway from Koelwar to Chausa for its base, and the river Son and Panjraon branch canal for its sides. The Main Western canal supplies the Arrah, the Buxar and Chausa canals, which all branch off within the first twelve miles, and is continued for a total distance of twenty-two miles, as far as the Grand Trunk Road, two miles beyond Sasaram. Its prolongation for a further distance of fifty miles to the frontier of the district, towards Mirzapur, was commenced as a relief work during the scarcity of 1874-75, but was never completed, as sufficient water was not available for the extension. The chief engineering work is the syphon-aqueduct of twenty-five arches, by which the Kao, a formidable hill torrent, is carried under the canal. The Arrah canal branches off from the Main Western canal at the fifth mile, and follows the course of the Son for thirty miles, when it strikes northwards, running on a natural ridge past the town of Arrah, and finally after a total course of sixty miles it falls into the Gangi Nadi, a local stream flowing into the Ganges. It is designed for navigation as well as irrigation, but owing to shoals at the point of junction with the main stream of the Ganges, navigation along the Gangi Nadi is only possible during the cold season. To overcome the total fall of 180 feet, thirteen locks were constructed, one of which has since been abandoned. Besides four principal distributaries, its main offshoots are the Bihia canal, thirty-one miles long, and the Dumraon canal, forty miles long. The Buxar canal,

which is also intended for navigation, leaves the Main Western canal at its twelfth mile and communicates with the Ganges at Buxar, after a course of forty-five miles; its main branch, known as the Chausa canal, has a length of forty miles. The total fall is 159 feet, which is overcome by twelve locks

Canal revenue.

"When the construction of the canals was in progress, sanguine hopes of the revenue they would yield were entertained, but the event proved the fallacy of these early forecasts. In 1875 a yearly irrigated area of 10,43,680 acres was anticipated, and it was estimated that the net profits would amount to Rs. 26,40,520 and yield a return equal to 8 3 per cent on the capital outlay. It was expected that there would be a large return from navigation receipts: and a considerable sum (estimated at Rs. 66,85,606 or one-quarter of the whole capital outlay) was sacrificed in making the canals first class navigation lines. These hopes were falsified; the supply of water from the Son proved smaller than was anticipated, the maximum area ever irrigated being 6,19,033 acres (in 1920-21); in the five preceding years the average was 5,33,193 acres, and in 1911-12 the irrigated area was only 4,49,541 acres. The receipts from tolls have equally failed to realise the expectations originally entertained; and they have been still further reduced since 1900 in consequence of the construction of the East India Railway line in the south of the district During the four years previous to the opening of that line, the navigation receipts averaged Rs. 87,600; but they fell to Rs. 36,500 in 1901, and the average annual receipts during the last five years were Rs. 23,900. The result has been that for many years the canals were unremunerative; and it is only during recent years that the return on the capital expenditure has exceeded 4 per cent. By the end of 1921-22 the total capital outlay amounted to Rs. 2,68,98,109, while the net revenue for the year was Rs 15,37,513, yielding a return of 5¾ per cent.

Effects of canal irrigation.

"Even though there was for many years a recurring loss on the canals, it has been compensated for by the great benefits which they have conferred on the tract which they serve. They have afforded it absolute protection against famine; they have increased the profits of cultivation; and they have enlarged the

material resources of the community. Even if only their value as protective works and the insurance they afford against famine are considered, their construction has been fully justified The catchment areas of most *ahars* are small, seldom extending far beyond the village boundary, and, as they depend largely for their utility on the rainfall, the supply is uncertain and very often insufficient. The constant and ample supply of canal water available from the end of June to October presents, therefore, advantages which cannot well be overrated, especially as the private reservoirs are liable to fail just when they are most needed, in the beginning or end of the season. The result is that when rainfall is deficient or ill-distributed, the *raiyats* are dependent on the water furnished by the canals, from which they can rely on obtaining enough to save their crops.

Protection from famine.

"Notwithstanding occasional years of scarcity and consequent distress, there is no record of any famine having ever occurred along the tract of country watered by the canals: and in spite of the fact that the area irrigable has been found to be much less than was originally contemplated, it is still sufficient in years of deficient rainfall to supplement, to a large extent, the failure of the crops in those portions of the district which the canals do not touch. Their great value in this respect has been strikingly demonstrated on several occasions. During the famine of 1873-74, even though the canals were not completed, the water which was supplied gratuitously from them saved a large portion of the crops. In 1877, a year of scanty rainfall, the prospects were so gloomy that, with a view simply to the production of more food, it was decided, at a certain sacrifice of revenue, to reduce the water-rate for the rice crop from Rs. 2-8 to Re 1 an acre; and this measure led to a considerable demand for water, and the irrigated *kharif* rice proved a bumper crop. In 1888-89, distress and scarcity would have been the inevitable result of the total failure of the rains in September and October but for these irrigation works; all the *ahars*, except those with a large catchment area, dried up, the rice crop watered from them yielded an outturn of only a quarter of that given by the crops on canal irrigated lands; and the area irrigated from the canals was only circumscribed by the supply available. Again, in the famine of 1896-97, the portion of the district served

by the canals was entirely protected by the network of distributaries and village channels and remained immune from famine, when it attacked a large area which had not the benefit of this system of irrigation.

Canal Administration.

"The whole system is under the control of a Superintending Engineer, who is assisted by two Executive Engineers in the charge of Divisions The latter are responsible for the maintenance of the canals, the conduct of irrigation operation and assessments, and a separate establishment is entertained for the collection of the revenue For this purpose, there is a revenue division in charge of a special Deputy Collector, who sees to the collection of water-rates under the orders of the Superintending Engineer The irrigated area under long leases is divided into blocks, the lease of all the lands in each block being arranged so as to lapse in the same year, and in fixing the period of the leases efforts are made to see that leases for an equal area expire each year. Applications for water are made by the cultivators on a prescribed form, the year being divided into three seasons, hot weather, *kharif* and *rabi*. A date is fixed for each season, and the lease or permit granted for that season is only in force for that particular period Besides these season leases, there are long-term leases, or leases for a period of ten years, which provide for the supply of water during the *kharif* and *rabi* seasons only and are granted at a reduced rate These long-term leases are only granted for compact blocks defined by well-marked boundaries of such a nature that the leased lands can be clearly distinguished from the adjoining unleased lands, and also so situated that unleased lands will not be ordinarily irrigated by water supplied for the land included in the block. These boundaries are mentioned in the application for the lease, on receipt of which a special report is submitted to the Subdivisional Canal Officer. If the lease is likely to be approved, he issues orders for the block to be measured and a detailed *khasra*, or measurement of each cultivator's holding, is then made The lease and the *khationi* or demand statement are finally approved by the Divisional Canal Officer who issues the permit, but before this can be done, the majority of the cultivators who have fields within the block must sign their names against the areas which have been measured and which will be assessed in the block. Fields which

cannot be ordinarily irrigated, or for which canal water is not ordinarily required, can be excluded from the block, such fields being duly noted in the *khasra* or measurement paper. In these long-term leases water-rates are charged for the area measured and accepted by the majority of the cultivators, whether water is required or not; and the channel by which the area is irrigated must be registered as well as the name of its owner. In *rabi* and hot-weather leases water is supplied on application, and water-rates are levied on the actual areas irrigated, and not necessarily on those specified in the application In order to assist the Canal Department in regulating and distributing water among the cultivators named in the leases, and in collecting water-rates, influential men of the village are appointed, in consultation with the cultivators concerned, to act as *lambardars* or headmen. Their duty is to assist in measurements, to give in the names of the cultivators of the different holdings, to see that water is properly distributed over the leased area, and to help generally in the collection of water-rates. For these duties they are paid a commission of Re. 1-9-0 (1.56) per cent on all assessments.

Water-rates.

"There are five rates charged for the water supplied, viz., (1) *rabi* season leases from the 26th of October to the 25th of March at Rs. 3-8-0 an acre; (2) hot-weather leases from the 26th of March to the 24th of June at Rs. 7-8-0 an acre; (3) leases during the same period at Rs. 2-8-0 for each watering; (4) *kharif* season leases between the 25th of June and the 25th of October at Rs. 5 an acre; (5) ten years' leases for block areas for any kind of crop between the 25th of June and the 25th of March in the next year at Rs. 4-8-0 an acre. When the long lease system was inaugurated, it was calculated that water would be given for 50 per cent of the whole area of a village; and this portion was marked off into one or more well defined blocks, for the irrigation of which a charge was made at a reduced rate. The cultivator is supplied with water enough for his own block, but he may not use it beyond these limits; and it is, therefore, laid down that there must be a well defined village channel to conduct the water from the distributary, and that it is not to be allowed to escape to an *ahar*. At first, when the canals were opened, water was allowed to fill up the *ahars* and to be drawn thence on to the fields, but as soon as water-rates were claimed, the *raiyats* maintained that they

> had used only rain and not canal water, and as their allegation could not be disproved, it was found necessary to discontinue the practice of filling *ahars*. Of all these leases the most popular are the long leases, which are given only for the areas for which protection can be assured even in the driest years. The rates for this class of lease were originally fixed at a low figure owing to the backwardness of the cultivators in resorting to canal irrigation and to the fact that the use of canal water is not indispensable in years of ordinary rainfall; the holders of these leases have preferential claims to water during periods of high demand such as occur in dry seasons; and, as the cultivators have been quick to recognize the advantages of the system, the area under long leases has steadily expanded, until at the present day 61 per cent of the whole irrigated area receives water on long lease, and the demand for such leases cannot be fully met."*

The Sone canals consisted of 2½ miles weir across the Sone at Dehri and two main channels, viz., Arrah and Buxar channels, with distributaries and sub-distributaries and parallel channels, besides private village channels, taking off from them The total cost in the extension of the scheme was 2.78 crores. The Arrah and Buxar main canals have two divisions with headquarters at Arrah and Buxar respectively The branch canals, namely, Behea and Dumraon canals, take off from the Arrah canal and is under the administrative control of the Subdivisional Officers, Sone Canal, Koath and Ramnagar, respectively. Two other branch canals, viz., Gara Chaubey and Chausa branch canals take off from the main canal and are under the jurisdiction of the Subdivisional Officers (Sone Canal) with their headquarters at Basawan and Manoharpur respectively. There are altogether 171 distributaries and sub-distributaries in the district and the total area irrigated by them is 6,90,972 acres.

The main western canal starting from Dehri was originally designed to carry a discharge of 4,342 cusecs up to five miles where the Arrah canal takes off and it was intended to irrigate 12,00,000 acres of *rabi* area. The total length of the main western canal is 22 miles. It was aligned in such a way as to escape heavy cutting 30 feet deep at Dehri. It curves round in a northerly direction from the head works and then bends to the west crossing Kao over a syphon at Meranpur and finally ends on the Grand Trunk Road, two miles west of Sasaram.

The Arrah canal which branches off at the 5th mile of the main western canal, curves back towards the river Sone, a course it follows up to the 30th mile. It strikes due north and runs on

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), pp. 77—86.

a natural ridge, passes Arrah and finally falls into the Ganga. The canal is 60 miles long from Dehri to the point where it enters the river but 10 miles more have to be traversed before the water reaches the Ganga. It is designed for irrigation and navigation as well. From Arrah canal two branch canals take off, the Behea and Dumraon branch canals.

Arrah Canal.

There are 29 distributaries and sub-distributaries under this canal system The length of this canal is 130 miles and the total area proposed for irrigation is 87,572 acres

The main distributaries under this canal system are Rajpur, Nasriganj, Kaithy, Sakla, Koilwar, Jaitpur, etc

There are 23 distributaries and sub-distributaries in Dumraon branch canal and the length of these are 149 miles. The total area proposed for irrigation is 9,15,170 acres

The Behea branch canal takes off from the Arrah canal, has 13 distributaries with 10 sub-distributaries and the total length is 113 miles. The area proposed for irrigation is 84,570 acres.

Similarly, the Buxar canal leaves the main western canal at the 12th mile and the maximum discharge is 1,950 cusecs It is designed both for irrigation and navigation The direction is generally north up to 29th mile and thereafter north-west up to the Ganga at Buxar. It commands the area between the rivers Kao and Dhanauti. The total length is 45 miles. It has 35 distributaries From the Buxar canal, the Chausa Branch Canal takes off from 1¾ miles to Kheri, Unwas Atrauna, Hathia and Rampur distributaries.

A statement given below will show the original discharge and the present discharge:—

Canals.	Original discharge in cusecs.	Present discharge in cusecs.	Expected discharge after remodelling of existing distributaries system in cusecs.
1. Main Western Canal	4,320	4,600	6,700
2 Arrah Canal ..	2,000	2,650	3,496
3. Dumraon Branch Canal	351	700	1,055
4. Behea Branch Canal	428	650	968
5. Buxar Canal ..	1,226	1,950	2,402
6. Chausa Branch Canal	623	628	1,020

The statement below supplied by the Superintending Engineer, Sone Circle, Arrah, will show the irrigated areas in the district from 1959-60 to 1962-63:—

	1959-60.	1960-61.	1961-62.	1962-63.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Arrah Canal System	2,37,363	2,40,120	2,51,120	Not available.
Main Western Canal System ..	43,960	55,320	60,120	63,790
Buxar Canal System	1,64,316	1,70,120	1,70,720	1,72,900

After the remodelling of the Sone canal it is expected that the following additional areas will be brought under irrigation —

	Acres
Arrah Canal System ..	60,145
Buxar Canal System ..	44,115
Main Western Canal System . .	10,400

There are three different seasons for supply of canal water for different seasonal crops, viz., *kharif* season from the 25th June to 25th October, *rabi* season from the 26th October to 25th March and the hot weather season from the 26th March to 24th June. The number of watering is also different during the different seasons on which the calculation of water charge is based The number of watering will naturally vary from season to season. In the *kharif* season there will have to be irrigation from 6 to 8 times; in the *rabi* season there will be watering for four times, the hot weather will require three waterings. The rates also differ. The rate per acre in the *kharif* season is Rs. 10, Rs. 6 per acre for the *rabi* season and Rs. 19 per acre for the hot season.

It has to be mentioned here that at present the Superintending Engineer, Sone Circle with his headquarters at Arrah, has three Executive Engineers instead of two as mentioned in the last District Gazetteer (1924). The headquarters of the Executive Engineers are at Arrah, Buxar and Dehri.

The revenue reported by the Superintending Engineer, Sone Circle, from 1952-53 to 1962-63 is as follows*.—

Year.	Demand.	Collection.	Balance.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs
1952-53	1,33,992.82	3,089.78	1,30,903.04
1953-54	2,42,853.69	18,120.53	2,24,733.16
1954-55	2,53,075.10	39,292.82	2,13,782.28
1955-56	5,15,203.56	1,10,533.91	4,04,669.65
1956-57	5,34,474.93	1,18,764.01	4,15,710.92
1957-58	7,02,618.64	1,75,942.23	5,26,676.41
1958-59	11,57,787.53	3,96,434.94	7,61,357.59
1959-60	15,90,059.65	7,87,765.03	8,02,294.62
1960-61	25,32,299.37	13,17,827.05	12,14,472.32
1961-62	58,00,657.23	31,21,576.76	26,79,080.47
1962-63	79,07,205.94	3,10,388.70	48,03,325.24

* The figures also include the revenue of Gaya and Patna Divisions of Sone Canal because the separate figures for Shahabad district are not available as reported by the office of the Superintending Engineer, Sone Circle, Arrah.

The canals have been of immense boon to the district. They have improved the soil and have allowed inlet to certain accumulated drainage. The portion between Piro and Behea known as the jungle *mahal* is now a fertile rice bowl. Because of the canals many fallow tracts have come under cultivation and the cost of land has risen to Rs 4,000 to Rs. 8,000 per bigha in place of Rs. 200 to Rs 400 per bigha.

The canal system has provided cheap traffic for some merchandise. Previously, there used to be a paddle steamer service from Dehri to Arrah. In the agricultural economy of the district the canals play a great role. At the moment (1964) there is an Intensive Agricultural Programme (discussed elsewhere) in the canal irrigated area.

The Sone irrigation system built in 1868—74 has, however, been almost outmodel. The remodelling of the Sone canal system known as the Sone Barrage Project is described below.

Sone Barrage Project.

The present anicut is 2½ miles wide. The excessive width caused heavy siltation on the upstream side and year after year heavy recurring expenditure has had to be incurred in maintaining the anicut. The question of remodelling the anicut was examined several times during the last 40 years. It is no longer considered to be economical or technically dependable. It was felt that a remodelled barrage could be more useful. A similar anicut across the Krishna river in the Andhra Pradesh suddenly gave way in September, 1952 The matter was investigated and it was decided that the existing anicut should be replaced by a barrage about five miles upstream to Dehri.

The Sone Barrage Project consists of the three units, namely, the barrage on the river Sone, remodelling of the canal system and a high level canal system.

The barrage will be located at about five miles above the existing anicut and nearly six miles from Dehri-on-Sone Railway Station. To improve the flow conditions of the river at the barrage site, the width of the barrage has been kept at only 4,633 feet as against the river width of 12,500 feet. The barrage will have 50 spill-way bays and eight under-sluice bays on the left and four under-sluice bays on the right. A road bridge, 22 feet wide, will also be provided over the barrage. The barrage site will be connected with the Grand Trunk Road through the canal services roads on both the banks. This will provide suitable by-pass to the National Highway near Dehri town

Link canals, about 6 miles long on either bank, will be constructed to feed the existing main western and eastern canals. The inland transport system on the Sone canals will be maintained through the link canals by providing navigation locks on either side.

The cost of the barrage and the link canals is estimated at Rs. 11,82,66,000 only.

The estimated cost of the Sone-remodelling work is Rs. 2.6 crore. With a more efficient regulation of the water supplies by the construction of the barrage and the utilisation of the additional discharge released by the Rihand Project in Mirjapur district (Uttar Pradesh), the remodelled Sone Canal System will irrigate an additional area of about 1.7 lakh acres of *kharif*, 40 thousand acres of *rabi* and 1 lakh acres of hot-weather crops within the Sone command.

Proposal for the construction of two high-level canals to irrigate additional areas in the upper reaches above the present Sone command is also under consideration. With these canals about 1.9 lakh acres of paddy, 48 thousand acres of *rabi* and 40 thousand acres of hot-weather crops will be brought under irrigation. Link canals will be constructed to carry the extra discharge required for this area.

Some of the salient features of the scheme are given in the table below:—

River-flow.

(*i*) Catchment area—26,608 square miles.

(*ii*) Average annual rainfall in the catchment—55 inches.

(*iii*) Maximum observed flood—12,00,000 cusecs.

(*iv*) Design discharge—14,50,000 cusecs

The Barrage.

(*i*) Length of Barrage—4,633 feet

(*ii*) Crest level of weir—River level 341.00 feet.

(*iii*) Crest level of under-sluice—River level 339.00 feet.

(*iv*) Average bed level—River level 340.00 feet.

(*v*) Pond level—River level 355.00 feet.

(*vi*) High flood level (observed)—River level 359.00 feet.

(*vii*) Design High flood level—River level 360.40 feet.

(*viii*) Maximum water level—River Level 364 90 feet.

Canal System.

(*i*) Western Link Canals—

(*a*) Length—6.5 miles.

(*b*) Gross command—12 76 lakh acres.

(*c*) Full Supply discharge—7,883 cusecs.

(*ii*) Eastern link canals—

(*a*) Length—6 75 miles.

(*b*) Gross command—4.24 lakh acres.

(*c*) Full supply discharge—4,250 cusecs.

(*iii*) Additional yield of crops annually—

(*a*) Foodgrains—10.44 lakh maunds.

(*b*) Non-foodgrains—97.50 lakh maunds.

(*c*) Monetary value foodgrains—Rs. 138 64 lakh.

(*iv*) Non-foodgrains—Rs 140.40 lakh.

Progress of the implementation of the project.

The remodelling works are now nearing completion. A new head regulator has been constructed at Dehri to push in about 1,900 cusecs of water. The existing eastern head regulator was increased to push in an additional quantity of 400 cusecs. The main eastern and western canals including the structures have also been widened, wherever necessary. Some of the distributaries were out of use for a long time due to shortage of water at the tail ends. These distributaries are now expected to get water. New distributaries and minor ones have also been constructed in Shahabad district by which new areas for irrigation will be brought under the present command. About 60,000 to 1,00,000 acres of additional area has already been brought under irrigation within the present Sone command by the remodelling works

Barrage and link canals

Construction of the barrage, five miles upstream of the present anicut was started in November, 1962. The work is being done under contract system and there are several contractors Heavy earth moving machinery worth about Rs 20 lakhs was arranged by the Project Administration in advance and handed over to the contractors on hire purchase Import licence for functioning additional machinery including the well point system, worth about Rs. 55 lakhs, was also arranged for direct purchase by the firm. All these machines have now arrived at the site of work and installed. Out of 132 lakh cubic feet of concrete, 23 lakh cubic feet in the western head regulator and under-sluice was done during 1962. It is proposed to do 77 lakh cubic feet of concrete required for completing the entire spill-way section of 60 bays during the current working season

With a view to achieve economy, arrangement for getting cement in bulk has been made in the Rohtas Cement Factory after erecting a new silo and making arrangement for direct pumping to trucks. Another economy is being achieved by mixing 10 per cent fly ash to replace cement in the concrete without reducing the strength. Arrangement for getting the fly ash from Bokaro Thermal Power Station has been made. Investigations are afoot to get fly ash at a cheaper rate from Durgapur Thermal Power Station.

Link Canals—Excavation on both sides is under progress. There is some difficulty in getting suitable contractors and this has affected the progress considerably.

The following statement will show the expenditure on the Barrage:—

Year.	Rs. (in lakhs).
1960-61	43.83
1961-62	1,02.01
1962-63	1,90.98
1963-64 (up to December, 1963) ..	1,27.21

Other Irrigation Schemes.

The Master Plan of Irrigation in Bihar published in 1959 has mentioned the following irrigation schemes of this district*.—

Sl. no.	Name of Scheme.	Estimated cost (Rs. lakhs)	Total irrigable area ('000 acres).	Potential utilised up to 1958-59 ('000 acres)
1	Sone Canal (part) .	2,14.64	6,14.00	6,14.00
2	Dehri-Sasaram Irrigation Scheme ..	58 00	34 00	34.00
3	P B B E B. Scheme (Part)** ..	16.00	6 80	6.80
4	Kao Irrigation Scheme .	2 86	4.50	4.50
5	Durgawati Irrigation Scheme .	32 16	26.00	20.00
6	126 Tube-wells, part of 350 tube-wells under 1952 T.C A Programme in Arrah-Buxar area †	62 49	31 50	29.38
7	Suara Irrigation Scheme ..	15 50	9 00	6 60
8	Bharari Dam ..	3 00	2.10	1.50
9	15 Tube-wells, part of 35 tube-wells under 1953 T.C.A. Programme	7 40	4.00	4.00
	SCHEMES UNDER EXECUTION.			
10	Kohira Reservoir Scheme‡ ..	60 34	25 50	..
11	Sone (Remodelling) Barrage Project (Part) †.	3,12 00	3,25.00	..
12	New tube-wells ..	2.00	0.40	..

KARAMNASA SCHEME.

As regards Karamnasa Scheme the last District Gazetteer mentions as follows:—

"This sketch of the irrigation system in Shahabad would be incomplete without a reference to the proposal to extent irrigation works to the Bhabhua subdivision. This subdivision, like a part of Sasaram, is beyond the reach of the Sone waters; though 88,500 acres are irrigated from private works it is still much exposed to drought, and the barrenness of the fields is all the more striking from its contrast to the fertile plains in the neighbourhood The idea of utilizing the waters of the Karamnasa to irrigate this area is no recent one,

* *Master Plan of Irrigation in Bihar* (1959), p. 7.

** This scheme was completed in 1961.

† Patna-Bihar-Bakhtiarpur-Ekangarsarai Bihta Technical Colombo Aid.

‡This scheme was completed in 1961.

and more than a century ago the Collector of the district suggested the construction of sluices with canals leading into the interior. In 1870 the Chief Engineer of Bengal left it on record that there was a magnificent site for a large reservoir; and subsequently the Indian Irrigation Commission of 1901—03 urged the importance of conducting a survey of the upper portion of its course where it passes through the hills, though they could not admit that the liability of the subdivision to famine was so great as to justify a large unremunerative outlay. It was ultimately proposed that the weir should be constructed in that part of the Karamnasa which lies within the United Provinces*, and that five hundred cusecs of water should be made available for irrigating the tract of country in the Bhabhua subdivision, but the idea of constructing the weir has been given up by the Government of the United Provinces, and therefore, the project has been abandoned. Investigations and surveys are now in progress with a view to the construction of reservoirs at suitable sites for conserving the water in the Shaura and Kora Valleys"†.

This scheme has not been taken up as yet. Investigation has been taken up. Other schemes for Bhabua have, however, been completed.

UNIFIED MINOR IRRIGATION DIVISION.

Minor Irrigation Schemes include *bundhs*, tanks, wells, *pynes*, small protective embankments, etc., as well as repairs of old minor irrigation works that had been carried out by the *zamindars* in the *zamindari* days. These minor irrigation schemes were carried out by three agencies, one under the Revenue Department since 1948, second by the Agriculture Department since 1946 and the third by the Community Development Department since 1954-55 Since 1960 these works are carried out by Unified Minor Irrigation Section under Agriculture Department.

The Unified Minor Irrigation Division since 1960 has taken up 47 schemes out of which about 24 schemes have been completed up to November, 1963 By the completed schemes about 14,317 acres of land are being irrigated and after completion of 23 schemes about 70,932 acres of land will be irrigated.

LIFT IRRIGATION DIVISION.

It was under the control of Sone Canal till 1958. In 1959 this Division was made separate and three divisions were created namely, Arrah, Buxar and Dehri. Besides, two mechanical subdivisions were also opened, namely, Tube-wells Mechanical Subdivision,

* Now Uttar Pradesh.

† *District Gazetteer of Shahabad*, 1924, pp 83-84.

Arrah and Dehri The main function of the Lift Irrigation is to irrigate fields by tube-wells on a prescribed charge.

There is an Executive Engineer, Lift Irrigation Division, to look after the working of the five subdivisions He is under the direct control of the Chief Engineer, Irrigation Department, Patna. There are five Assistant Engineers and eight Sectional Officers, Mechanical, etc , under him

These are the important schemes under this division:—

(1) *Patna-Bihar-Barh Ekangarsarai Bihta Scheme*.—This scheme was taken up in 1950-51. It has been executed by two divisions, viz, Lift Irrigation Division, Patna and Arrah. There are 25 tube-wells in this scheme in which 22 are under Arrah Division and rest under Patna Division The tube-wells have been sunk in Sadar subdivision area An area of 3,823 acres was irrigated during 1962-63 as against 3,730 acres in 1961-62

(2) *Hundred Tube-wells Technical Colombo Aid Scheme, Arrah-Buxar Area*.—This scheme was executed in 1953 by the help of Colombo Aid Out of the 100 tube wells under this scheme 55 tube wells are under Lift Irrigation Subdivision, Buxar, and 45 tube-wells under Lift Irrigation Subdivision, Arrah An area of 22,649 acres were irrigated in 1962-63 as against 21,271 acres in 1961 62

(3) *Hundred Tube-wells Technical Colombo Aid Scheme, Bihta and Bihar*.—It was also executed in 1958 Out of 100 tube-wells under this scheme 74 are under Lift Irrigation Division, Patna and 26 tube-wells under Arrah Division. Out of which 18 tube-wells are under Lift Irrigation Subdivision, Arrah, 7 tube wells are under Dehri Subdivision and 4 tube wells are under Buxar Subdivision In 1962-63, 5,576 acres were irrigated as against 5,295 acres in 1961-62

(4) *Thirty-five Tube wells Technical Colombo Aid Programme*.—Out of 35 tube-wells, only 15 tube-wells are under this division which are under the direct control of Lift Irrigation Subdivision, Buxar and have been sunk which irrigated 3,527 acres in 1962-63 as against 2,955 acres in 1961-62

(5) *Dehri-Sasaram Lift Irrigation Scheme*.—There are 95 tube-wells under this scheme under the control of Lift Irrigation Subdivision, Dehri and the area irrigated during the year 1962-63 was 32,656 acres as against 30,846 acres in 1961-62.

The statement below will show the area in (acres) irrigated from tube-wells from 1941-42 to 1960-61*:—

Sl. no.	Name of Scheme	No. of tube-wells	1941-42	1942-43	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47.	1947-48	1948-49	1949-50.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	Construction of Dehri-Sasaram Scheme before 1st Five Year Plan	95 Dehri-Sasaram Area	2,807	3,502	5,280	5,980	6,717	9,016	15,715	13,647	17,057
2	Construction of** T C A. Scheme during 1st Five Year Plan.	100 Arrah-Buxar side			Not taken up till 1953 54.						
3	Construction of T C A. scheme during 1st Five Year Plan	26 in Shahabad and 74 in Patna district			Not taken up till 1954-55.						
4	Patna-Bihar-Barh-Ekangarsarai Scheme	22 in Shahabad, 3 in Patna-Arrah-Koilwar			Not taken up till 1953-54.						
5	T C A. Scheme during 1st Five-Year Plan	15 in Shahabad and 20 in Patna			Not taken up till 1954-55						
6	Construction of Tube-wells in 2nd Five-Year Plan	1 in Buxar and 4 in Arrah.			Not taken up till 1956-57						
7	New Tube-wells under 2nd Five Year Plan.	5 in Shahabad and 10 in Patna			Not taken up till 1959-60						
8	Shallow Tube-wells under 2nd Five Year Plan	3 in Shahabad			Not taken up.						

*Supplied from the Lift Irrigation Section of Arrah

**T C.A.—Technical Colombo Aid

Note.—The figures mentioned above shows that there is increasing tendency to utilise water from tube-wells. It may be possible that the demand of water from tube-wells must have increased and that is why the figures seem to fluctuate

Sl. no.	Name of Scheme.	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56	1956-57	1957-58.	1958-59.	1959-60.	1960-61.
1	2	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
1	Construction of Dehri Sasaram Scheme before 1st Five Year Plan	1[illegible],634	20,714	22,305	20,100	14,331	18,720	16,632	26,562	28,356	32,670	34,858
2	Construction of T C A Scheme during 1st Five-Year Plan					1,958	6,005	7,539	8,359	17,437	23,169	32,216
3	Construction of T C A Scheme during 1st Five-Year Plan						57	900	3,323	3,211	3,258	5,950
4	Patna-Behar-Barh-Ekangarsarai Scheme					2,931	322	581	323	3,211	3,256	4,618
5	T C A Scheme during 1st Five-Year Plan.						57	170	234	3,067	3,918	3,713
6	Construction of Tube-wells in 2nd Five-Year Plan								214	379	654	589
7	New Tube-wells under 2nd Five-Year Plan											223
8	Shallow Tube-wells under 2nd Five-Year Plan											

The statement below supplied by Lift Irrigation Division, Arrah, will show the revenue realised by the Lift Irrigation Division from 1957-58 to 1962-63 —

Year.	Revenue.
	Rs
1957-58	7,89,885 97
1958-59 .	6,12,441 57
1959-60	6,05,711 24
1960-61	6,98,957 81
1961 62 .	5,87,558 24
1962-63 .	6,48,699 18

From the above table it appears that the revenue figures show fluctuating tendency The fluctuation is due to the fact that during the year when the percentage of rainfall is high and well timed, people do not usually purchase water with the result that the revenue figures will decrease

The statement below supplied by the Lift Irrigation Division, Arrah, will show the rates of water purchased by the cultivators during 1963-64 -

Class of seasons	Period	Nature of crops	No. of waterings	Rate
				Rs
Kharif	25th June to 25th October	Paddy, Marua Kodo	3 waterings Single watering	9 00 4 75
	26th October to 25th March	Wheat, Barley, Gram	2 waterings	6 00
Rabi	"	Chillies and tobacco	Single watering	7 00
	"	Early potato	4 waterings	4 20
	,,	Double potato	9 waterings	34 00
	"	Late potato	6 waterings	23 00
Hot weather	26th March to 24th June	Crop other than sugarcane	2 waterings	7 00
	"	Sugarcane	3 waterings	13 00

SOIL.

Clay is the characteristic soil in the district and is the basis of all other formations. The greater portion of the southern tract is of rocky nature Clay is found usually to the west of the Arrah-Sasaram Road and along the Ganga and to the north of the Grand Trunk Road The varieties of soil are clay, loam, sand and rock.

The clayey soils are known as *kewal, mattar karael* and *gurmat.* Loamy soil is generally known as *doras* and predominates to the south

of the Grand Trunk Road and also in the canal-irrigated areas. Sandy-loam is known as *balumati* or *baluar* and is generally found along the Sone and the Karmanasa rivers Alluvium is a clayey soil and known as *kadai* and found generally on the bank of the Ganga

About 50 per cent of the area is covered with clay and clay-loam Sandy-loam and alluvium claim from 20 to 25 per cent of the area

Admixture of sand alters the texture and the quality of clay and the soil is described clayey or sandy as is the position of clay or sand in the soil loams comes between the two extremes *Doras* is a rich loam and grow good crops of rice, wheat, barley, sugarcane, mustard and linseed The other varieties of sandy-loam is suitable for the cultivation of *rahar*, groundnut, sweet potato and water-melon

Soil erosion is caused every year by the winds and the floods and the fast flowing current of the hill streams In Bhabua subdivision where there is a large number of hill streams, erosion is caused to a less extent because the soil is loamy and hard Silting generally takes place from the floods of the Ganga and the other tributaries of the Ganga New beds are also raised by the Ganga and the Sone during the floods, known as the *diara*, which grow a variety of cucurbita and *rabi* The clay is fairly retentive of moisture and is well suited for *rabi* and *bhadai* crops Loam mixed with sand is called *balmat* or *balsunder* Where the sand predominates it is called *sigta* If such soil is of loose texture, it is called *dhus*, and when it is on a high level and hard enough to allow the water to flow readily of it is called *tanr*

Soil consisting chiefly of fine sand (*bal* or *benga*) is common along a strip three miles broad on the west bank of the Sone This soil requires continuous irrigation for producing good crops Sandy soils which contain a large proportion of clay are good for the cultivation of rice, if they are benefited by canal irrigation In the hills, the soil in the saucer-shaped valleys found between the undulating ridges consist of a rich vegetable mould swept down from above: and the low-lying strip about the Ganga consist of recent alluvium, known locally as *kadai* which is periodically fertilised, by fresh deposits of silt

PRINCIPAL CROPS

The crops of the district fall under three main harvests, the *aghani*, *bhadai* and *rabi* The *aghani* is the winter crop which is cut in the month of *Aghan* and is composed mainly of winter rice The *bhadai* is the early or autumn crop, reaped in the month of *Bhado* (August-September) consisting of 60 days' rice (*Sathi*), *marua*, maize, millets and less important grains, while the *rabi* crop includes such cold weather crops as wheat, barley, oats, grams, pulses, etc.

The statement below will show the acreage of the principal crops from 1949-50 to 1960-61·—*

Years.	Rice (Winter)	Rice (Autumn)	Maize	Wheat	Barley	Gram	Marua	Jowar	Sugarcane	Tabacco
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1949-50 ..	1,118,291	20,771	28,621	264,108	55,771	342,676	16,191	N A	33,866	133
1950-51 .	1,106,371	27,504	17,940	281,491	59,624	318,640	1,548	276	26,416	105
1951-52	1,082,321	34,975	30,274	255,652	48,295	302 055	3,241	3,446	38,174	87
1952-53 .	1,045,389	26,779	20,741	316,572	52,098	389,036	4,162	4,084	30,308	78
1953-54 .	1,044,563	19,934	20,605	272,179	49,486	329,518	3,407	3,291	20,653	44
1954-55 .	970,055	21,790	22 915	228,612	40,407	288,656	2,434	2,401	18,338	47
1955-56 .	1,034,229	15,791	26,396	274,007	50,606	301 083	2,403	2,700	21,090	59
1956 57	1,058,812	16,283	21,491	352,588	71,659	317,610	1,257	2,157	2,278	21
1957-58 .	1 115,778	18,485	29 513	250,307	44,889	296,677	1,980	1,127	25,082	23
1958-59 .	1,166,662	25,690	37,424	311,022	58,753	334,653	3,461	1,982	34,814	55
1959-60 .	1,148,914	27,622	37,095	331,275	59 518	328,895	2,730	1,690	35,205	54
1960-61 .	1,165,064	26,320	36,123	N A	N A	N A.	2,731	1,461	N A.	N A.

**Agricultural Intelligence in Bihar* (1961 No 1)
Published from Directorate of Agriculture, Bihar, Patna, pages 3 to 13

NOTE —Some of these figures differ from the figures of acreage under different crops given in the *District Census Handbook of Shahabad of* 1951 The figures from the *Shahabad District Census Handbook* are as follows .—

Rice	Wheat	Maize	Gram	Arhar.
Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres.	Acres
1,110,060	317,342	23,722	366,000	40,135

(The figures are based on the average for five years ending with crop year, 1949 50).

Shahabad District Census Handbook, 1951 (Page 109)

The Bihar through Figures published by Directorate of Economics and Statistics (Bihar), 1961, pages 36 to 38 gives the figures as follows —

Year.	Rice (Autumn and winter).	Wheat	Barley.	Maize	Marua	Gram	Masoor.	Arhar.	Khesari	Peas.
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres.	Acres	Acres.	Acres.	Acres	Acres.	Acres.
1960-61 ..	1,191,000	326,000	54,000	36,000	3,000	295,000	45,000	36,000	614,000	24,000

Some of the figures, however, differ.

Rice

The variety known as *bhadai* rice is sown broadcast in the month of June and harvested in September, taking nearly 60 days in all *Sathi* is a principal variety

The *aghani* or winter rice forms the greater part of this crop It is sown broadcast in low level areas where the water is deep and transplanting is not possible It is also transplanted on such lands where water can be stored but can be drained out Seedlings are raised at the beginning of the monsoon in particularly selected plots well inundated From these nurseries the seedlings are taken out and are planted in rows of two to three inches apart in watered fields, which have been ploughed and reploughed three to four times till the whole field is reduced to soft mud The traditional method of rice-cultivation is very cumbersome and do not yield much produce, as sufficient land is used for bunding The rice plant is then left to mature for nearly 15 days After about 15 days, water is drained out and the field is left to dry for another 15 days, and then the first weeding is done The field is again flooded, a practice known as *ugai* The *Hathia* rains are the most important for *aghani* rice and are required to mature the rice plant if sufficient irrigation is not provided If there will be no rainfall at this period the rice crop is usually liable to fail In that case the plants will be used only as fodder and no grain will be available

A noticeable feature of rice cultivation is the way in which it is conducted scrupulously according to astral movements (*Nakshatras*) The seed-beds throughout the district are sown within a period of 15 days in the *Adra Nakshatra* which lasts for about 15 days from about the 20th June to the 5th of July (approximately) Transplantation from the seed beds goes on during the *Punarbash*, *Pus* and *Asres Nakshatras* (from about the 18th July to 15th August) The water in the field is drained out in *Utra Nakshatra* (from about the 12th to 28th September), a period, when as a rule, there is a little rain, and after the exposure of the soil to the air and the sun during the heavy rain of the *Hathia Nakshatra* (from about the 26th September to 7th October) It is a general custom to keep the field watered and wet during the *Chitra Nakshatra* (from about the 8th to 20th October) At the commencement of *Swati Nakshatra* (from about the 21st October to 3rd November) they are again drained off and the plants are left to mature till the *Bisakha Nakshatra* (from about the 26th April to 10th May)

The rate of produce (output) is about 34 maunds per acre of early paddy and 30 maunds of late paddy The straw (*pual*) is used as fodder and for roofing the house

Wheat and Barley

Wheat is another important crop of the district and occupies 3 26,000 acres as mentioned in the statement for 1960-61 It is generally sown broadcast in October to November on sandy-clayey

and sandy-loamy soils and requires four waterings and harvested in the month of February-March Its cultivation is done mostly in the canal irrigated areas It is also sown on lands, where an early crop of rice is harvested It is accompanied with gram, linseed or mustard seed The straw (*bhusa*) is used as fodder The stubble is grazed. Barley is generally sown broadcast and requires four waterings The cultivation of barley occupies 59,518 acres as mentioned earlier The yield of wheat per acre is 12 maunds and of barley is 10 maunds.

Gram

Gram is by far the most important among the pulses, grown in the district and is grown on 2,95,000 acres as mentioned in the figures of 1960-61 Gram is used as pulse Pounded and processed gram known as *sattu* is a popular and cheap food

Other pulses

Among other pulses are rahar grown on 36,000 acres in 1960-61, khesari grown on 6,14,000 acres and masuri on 6,000 acres in 1960-61

Oilseeds

The chief among the oilseeds is linseed and is grown on 36,809 acres according to the figures of 1959-60 It is either grown as a single crop or accompanies *masuri* or wheat Mustard is another important oilseed and is sown broadcast during September October and harvested a fortnight before the wheat harvest.

Sugarcane

The important among the crops of the district other than rice and wheat is sugarcane It was grown on 37,000 acres as mentioned in 1960-61 Sugarcane is a new crop in the district Very little of it was grown four or five decades back At that time the cultivation of opium was intensively done But since the cultivation of opium has disappeared its place has been taken by sugarcane Sugarcanes go to the sugar mills and a quantity is used for making *gur* Gur-making is a cottage industry and is done in many villages The yield of sugarcane per acre is about 230 maunds on the average The sugar factory is at Dalmianagar

Area and yield during normal years

In the earlier statement we have discussed the area under the principal crops from 1949-50 to 1960-61 The corresponding figures of the yield as given in *Agriculture Intelligence in Bihar* (1961 No 1) are as follows;—

The statement will show the outturn (in tons) of the principal crops from 1949-50 to 1960-61*:—

Year	Rice (Winter)	Rice (Autumn)	Maize	Wheat	Barley	Gram	Sugarcane	Tobacco
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1949-50	2,84,275	3,813	3,249	42,786	12,306	51,989	32,619	27
1950-51	2,00,054	2,766	5,641	51,988	9,528	41,670	26,747	12
1951-52	2,49,136	2,207	6,931	41,995	7,211	45,205	18,659	23
1952-53	2,93,252	3,544	7,848	96,871	13,741	97,894	33,908	39
1953-54	3,91,332	2,298	9,132	60,590	11,616	68,029	12,898	14
1954-55	2,27,903	2,168	7,189	66,344	15,363	63,198	15,739	29
1955-56	3,62,381	2,483	7,515	43,315	8,496	37,710	1,71,805	4
1956-57	3,29,876	2,263	7,733	46,239	10,424	33,135	51,903	4
1957-58	3,10,908	4,752	10,050	53,239	9,210	60,430	1,97,175	2
1958-59	5,26,569	4,538	9,870	89,117	12,496	69,089	5,73,038	9
1959-60	4,09,934	4,164	7,114	72,772	8,855	66,450	5,28,075	18
1960-61	4,40,882	N.A.	18,803	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.

**Agricultural Intelligence in Bihar* (1961 No. 1) Published from Directorate of Agriculture, Bihar, pages 14 to 22.

The book *Bihar Through Figures* (published from Directorate of Statistics, 1961—pages 42 to 44) mentions as follows regarding the produce in tons during 1960-61. The figures differ from the above figures:—

Year	Rice (Autumn and winter)	Wheat	Barley	Maize	Gram	Masoor	Arhar	Khesari.	Peas.
1960-61	4,52,000	90,000	13,000	19,000	69,000	8,000	10,000	1,33,000	5,000

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

The principal fruits of this district are mango, *lichi*, *bel*, guava, limes, lemon, jackfruit and custard apple. In some private gardens peaches, grapes, etc., have also been grown.

Mango, the principal commercial fruit of this district occupies the larger acreage and the variety of *Malda* of this district has a good market. Other popular varieties of mango are *Mithua*, *Bombai*, *Krishnabhog*, *Kalkatia*, *Malda*, *Sipia*, *Sukul* and *Bathua*. Among these, *Mithua* and *Bombai* are the early ones, *Krishnabhog*, *Kalkatia*, *Malda* mid season, *Sipia*, *Sukul*, *Fazli* and *Bathua* are the late season varieties. *Bathua* a typical late season cheap variety of this district which starts appearing in the market from the end of July to August and continues till the middle of October. Growing plenty of *Bijoo* or inferior varieties of small fruits is another remarkable feature of this district.

Next to mango is the acreage under jackfruit. Besides *Aola* is grown in plenty in the Kaimur hills. Guava, a popular fruit of this district, also occupies a fair acreage. Transport facilities in recent years have widened its market.

All the common vegetables like spinach, cucurbita, cauliflower, cabbage, carrot, beet, etc., are grown. A good quantity of potatoes, brinjals, onions, *parwals*, etc., are grown. A description of the vegetable market will be found in the text on '*Banking, Trade and Commerce*'. *Mahua* flower is used for making an intoxicant beverage. It is also dried and eaten by the poorer section.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS

Various kinds of indigenous agricultural implements are widely used. The wooden-plough with iron shear, harrow, hook, ladder, sickle, etc., are some of the common implements. Modern implements have also been introduced but the response from the cultivators to use them is not very encouraging. Mould Board Ploughs known as *Kulti* are quite popular in the district. Some improved agricultural implements like the Bihar plough (senior and junior), Bihar cultivation, Bihar ridger (senior and junior), Japanese rotary hoe, Japanese paddy weeder and tractors are getting popular.

The indigenous *rahat* pumps and *lathas* are widely used for irrigational purposes along with the modern pumping sets.

The statement below will give a comparative picture of the agricultural implements in the district*:—

Year.	Wooden ploughs	Iron ploughs.	Tractors	Oil engines	Electric pumps	Sugarcane crushers	
						Power	Bullocks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1945 ..	1,41,021	569	16	92	15	169	6,230
1956 ..	1,97,218	3,377	61	608	86	858	8,125
1960	2,70,767	8,330	100	818	120	1,020	1,280

SEEDS

The chief agencies of seed supply are the large cultivators, village merchants and the State Government. The bulk of the seed is supplied through the village merchants and agencies of the State Government. Seed multiplication schemes have been undertaken by the State Government for which 33 seed multiplication farms have been established in this district.

There are four subdivisional farms in the district. The Arrah Farm was established in 1957, Buxar Farm in 1958, Sasaram Farm in 1958 and Bhabua Farm in 1957. All the farms have 25 acres of land. These farms along with the 33 multiplication seed farms have been able to improve the seeds. The seeds produced in the seed multiplication farms are given to the registered growers who multiply them and return a portion to the Government agency. The Block Development authorities have to see that good seeds are made available.

Subdivisional Agriculture Farm, Mahdah.

This farm was visited with a view to see its working and its impact on the villagers in the neighbourhood. The farm was started in 1958 at village Mahdah, 6 miles south of the Buxar town on the Buxar Itarhi road. The road is in a very bad condition.

The staff consists of one Agriculture Inspector, one Farm *Sardar*, one Chaukidar and five Ploughmen and one Cattle Attendant. The Agriculture Inspector is in overall charge of the farm and is under the Subdivisional Agricultural Officer whose headquarters is at Buxar.

The farm is in 30 acres. Paddy and wheat are grown besides, *jawar* for fodder purposes and *Dhaincha* for green manuring and some gram and barley are also grown. The farm does not cultivate vegetables excepting a very small quantity of brinjals and onions. A portion of the farm, about five acres require reclamation, and is lying fallow. It has been ascertained that this could only be reclaimed by a tractor and there is no tractor available. There is a tube-well. The total capacity is 15,000 gallons per hour. The tube-well is

* The figures of 1945 and 1956 have been taken from the *Bihar Statistical Handbook*, 1957, pages 53-54 and the figures of 1960 have been collected from Agriculture Office.

exclusively meant for this farm Ordinary earth-cut channels carry the water to the different portions of the farm.

It has been ascertained that the average yield per acre for different crops is as follows:—

(1) Paddy—25 mds.
(2) Wheat—10 mds.
(3) Gram—10 mds
(4) Barley—10 mds.

This yield could be compared to the average yield in other parts of the village where the cultivators do not manure so lavishly but have got facilities of irrigation Such cultivators get about 15 to 20 maunds of paddy and about 8 maunds of wheat per acre Some of the villagers that were met with mentioned that they cannot use more fertilisers for want of money They know that if more fertilisers are used and better irrigation is made, their land could yield more.

This farm multiplies improved seeds received from Ranchi, Bhagalpur and Patna After multiplication, the seeds are supplied to the villagers at the rate of Rs 14 per maund The real benefit that this farm confers to the villagers around is the availability of improved seeds and technical skill if they require. The villagers can purchase the seeds direct from the farm

For storage purposes there is a small room which is apparently quite inadequate to store the grains There are 10 *Hariana* bullocks for ploughing purposes The bullocks are well maintained

The Agriculture Inspector gave the following figures of the quantity of seeds distributed in maunds —

1960-61—734
1961-62—842
1962-63—910
1963-64—943

Manures.

Cowdung, the cheapest and the best manure is still burnt as fuel in many households Farm-yard manure is not much in use. No particular care is taken to produce a balanced farm-yard manure with good chemical properties. Common ash is often used

Besides farm-yard manure, composts and fertilizers are also in use Experiments on manures are being conducted to suit the different crops and soils by the Agriculture Department Fertilizers are sold through the Credit Agricole Depots and their agents There are 20 Credit Agricole Depots in the district for the sale of chemical fertilizers to the public The demand for the fertilizers is on the increase There are many villagers who still think that ammonium sulphate, ammonium nitrate, ammonium phosphate, superphosphate are no better than cowdung and oil-cakes.

The Agriculture Department has been endeavouring to teach the average cultivator as how to make a proper farm-yard manure or compost or what are the greens that could be used as manure.

In the rural areas the cultivators prepare their own compost Cowdung, farm refuse, etc., are collected in a pit and are allowed to decompose to farm compost The pits are opened after one year and the farm-yard manure thus prepared is taken to the field

There is still a vast scope for the propagation of the use of leaf manure and legumes. There is also the need for more spread of knowledge of correct use of the fertilizers The intensive Agriculture Programme commonly known as the Package Programme has been doing a lot of work in some of the canal-irrigated area for such spread of ideas

ROTATION OF CROPS

The knowledge of the need for rotation of crops has been there since time immemorial The common cultivator knows that a plot of land requires rest and rejuvenation and that the same crop being grown year after year will exhaust the land quickly in case the crop requires more sustenance. The ordinary cultivator even before the fertilisers came in, knew that the soil has to be enriched by cowdung, common ash, leaf-mould and the droppings of the cattle or human excreta W. W. Hunter had mentioned that sugarcane was never grown twice in succession on the same land Many of the *rabi* crops, specially those which, like, *rahar,* occupied the soil for several months were usually alternated On the other hand, the great spring crops, such as, wheat, barley were generally grown on the same land year after year Paddy also was invariably grown on the same land*

Rotation of crops is observed particularly in the case of more exhausting crops, such as sugarcane Crop rotation conserves the soil and improves the fertility and increases the quality and quantity of the crop It also controls the incidence of crop-diseases and weeds The following rotation of crops is usually followed.—

Kharif	Rabi
(1) Early paddy.	Wheat or barley
(2) Green manure.	Wheat
(3) Maize	Barley or wheat
(4) Maize and *Arhar*	Arhar
(5) Maize.	Potato.
(6) Paddy	Gram or *Khesari.*
(7) Paddy.	Gram or wheat
(8) Maize and green manure	Gram.
(9) Maize	Sugarcane.

* W W Hunter's *A Statistical Account of Bengal*, Vol XII (1877), p. 250.

Cultivators generally sow mixed crops as the seeds of the cultivators are diversified and most of them hold small holdings. The crops usually grown together are (*i*) maize, *arhar* and turmeric; (*ii*) maize, *urid* and *moong;* (*iii*) wheat and gram; (*iv*) barley, gram and (*v*) wheat and mustard.

The cultivators do not always allow margin of rest to the land. This is not correct. A small gap between the *rabi* and *kharif* crops should be given.

Diseases and Pests.

The diseases and pests in this district are common to the other districts as well. The common pests of paddy are the rice *Gundi Bug* and rice case-worm The first generally attacks the early paddy at the flowering time and sucks the juice at the fruiting stage. The latter is common to both the *Bhadai* and *Aghani* paddy and damages the growing plant at all the stages of its growth Both of them are very harmful.

Borers are also commonly found doing damage to the maize and sugarcane crops. They bore holes into the stems of the plants and cause considerable stunting of growth and damage Spraying with insecticides such as strong crude emulsion oil at the early stages of attacks is useful.

Crickets and hoppers are common in *rabi* They damage the crops by cutting the plants at their base and eating away their leaves Clean cultivation and irrigation are good preventives Irrigating the fields with crude emulsion oil or flooding them with water mixed with kerosene oil is extremely beneficial

Mango hoppers are serious pest in the mango orchards of the district The juice of the young shoot and flower buds or the entire inflorescence is sucked up A characteristic fungus grows and the whole crop is lost. Spraying with resin soap, kerosene or crude oil emulsion and weak mixture of sulphate and lime help in combating these hoppers

The traditional method to prevent pests and diseases is the simple use of liquid cowdung and ash

Package Programme in the District.

Out of 41 Community Development Blocks, only 20 blocks have been selected since 1960-61 for the implementation of the Intensive Agricultural District Programme

The statement below will show the acreage in 1959-60 under the principal crops in each intensive agricultural district programme blocks :—*

Block	Paddy	Sugarcane	Barley	Gram	Barley and Gram	Wheat.	Wheat and Gram	Wheat and Barley.	Potato.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1 Udwantnagar	26,435	29	131	1,071	2 456	1,091	9,225	83	361
2. Dunara ..	63,262	436	486	2,675	1,233	10,269	11,551	35	122
3. Mohania .	33,861	802	158	7,488	1,597	5,259	15,057	30	131
4 Dehri .	21 444	3,998	1,039	526	913	3,816	4,077	1,222	1,270
5 Buxar .	19,310	205	354	3,288	4,926	2,770	9,404	325	342
6 Dumraon	34,330	3,222	596	2,206	2 529	3,340	9,588	472	504
7. Nasriganj	30,030	573	460	613	814	5,066	7,073	392	362
8. Raipur	64,494	406	619	2,011	4,510	10,323	9,035	148	242
9. Sahar .	38,228	634	493	1,411	1,874	1,783	7,524	9	32
10. Tarari .	36,171	699	197	1,556	1,538	2,968	6,292	42	464
11. Kargahar .	64,972	517	395	7,013	599	14,025	18,963	3	59
12 Itarhi	37 927	352	459	1.382	2,394	4 358	[illegible],243	623	172
13 Bikramganj	40,385	694	461	568	551	6,308	4,633	106	315
14 Nokha	41,607	435	238	1,469	725	7,886	3,889	67	107
15. Charpokhari	27,756	404	201	544	643	1 876	5,990	24	135
16. Nawanagar .	35 627	1 893	384	3,544	2,580	1,676	8,830	148	216
17 Piro .	43,045	887	521	769	1,033	6 112	9,015	418	360
18. Jagdishpur	49 571	2,006	837	1 474	2,481	6,689	8,010	178	776
19. Karkat .	37,824	1,131	410	883	682	3,973	9 019	108	561
20. Dwath	31,832	583	465	343	544	5,383	2,961	299	439
TOTAL	7,74,811	19,966	8,898	41,142	34,371	1 04,966	1,67,374	4,732	7,320

*Supplied from the Package Office, Arrah

As a result of the concentrated and co-ordinated efforts under the Intensive Agricultural District Programme, it is estimated that there will be an increase in agricultural production by about 2,78,270 tons at the end of the 5th year, i.e., 1964-65, over the base production of about 4,70,183 tons during base year 1959-60. This means an increase of about 59 per cent over the base production. This is, of course, the aim only.

Procedure of Work

So far as the procedure of work is concerned an attempt is made to educate the village institutions, namely, the Gram Panchayat, Co-operative Societies and the farmers in the process of improved agricultural practices and the benefits accruing from the same. A schedule of technical recommendations for the area of each block under the programme is prepared and given wide circulation and publicity through mass meetings, group discussions and the individual contacts with farmers. Technical recommendations are prescribed for the area of each block. The recommendation regarding the quantities and varieties of fertilizers to be used are based on the experiences of crop response on the basis of the experiments conducted by the Field Experiment Service.

On the basis of the Package of Practices a Farm Production Plan is prepared for each family which agrees to adopt the recommended practices. The contents of the Farm Production Plans are as follows:—

(a) The existing agricultural situation of the farmer, his resources, methods of cultivation and level of production.

(b) The recommendations made for achieving the optimum production in individual farmer's condition.

(c) The financial implications, in terms of extra expenditure, involved in the implementation of the plan.

All the credit required by the farmers for implementation of Farm Production Plans is obtained by them from the Co-operative Societies concerned, which in turn, borrow from the Central Co-operative Banks and the State Co-operative Banks respectively. Any farmer, who wants to participate in the programme and have a Farm Production Plan prepared, which he cannot finance out of his own resources has to be a member of the Co-operative Society of the area and has also to contribute the required share capital to enable him to borrow the amount required for the implementation of his Farm Production Plan.

Ordinarily, a member can borrow from a Co-operative Society, only up to Rs. 200 on personal security and for amounts above this, it is necessary to mortgage land. In view of the specific recommendations for the loan on the basis of the Farm Production Plan, the

issue of the major portion of the loan in kind and the intensive supervision of the proper utilisation of the loans and supplies under the Intensive Agricultural District Programme, this rule has been relaxed and any farmer participating in the Intensive Agricultural District Programme can borrow up to Rs. 750 each for the *kharif* and *rabi* seasons, subject to the credit requirements indicated in his Farm Production Plan.

Some of the broad achievements of the programme are briefly mentioned below.

The coverage under the programme has been increasing as the following figures supplied by the Package office would indicate:—

	Rabi 1960-61.	Kharif 1961	Rabi 1961-62	Kharif 1962	Rabi 1962-63.	Kharif 1963-64.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
No of blocks covered ..	6	12	20	20	20	20
No of villages covered .	174	540	1,276	2,235	2,103	2,687
No. of farmers covered ..	2,032	8,954	11,667	35.702	23,755	44,485
Area in acres covered ..	2,627	20,593	19,724	1,23,548 23	60,085	2,35,262

The following comparative figures of the last four years would indicate that there has been a considerable increase in the consumption of chemical fertilisers in this district since the introduction of the Intensive Agricultural District Programme:—

	1959-60 (in tons)	1960 61 (in tons)	1961-62 (in tons)	1962-63 (in tons).	1963 64. (in tons)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Nitrogenous . .	6,283	8,180	10,686	14,355	10,880.89
2 Phosphatic . .	478	917	3,255	4,542	6,009.64
3. Potasic .	Nil	9	418	533	683.41
4. Mixture . ..	Nil	337	1,070	3,024	1,682.42

Besides, the depots of the Bihar State Co-operative Marketing Union, a large number of co-operative societies have been appointed sales agents of the Marketing Union for sale of chemical fertilizers, which have been made available within the easy reach of the farmers.

There has been an increase in the distribution, exchange and saturation of improved seeds in the Intensive Agricultural District Programme. Some varieties of improved seeds of paddy (early Aman Variety, BR-34) and wheat (NP-798 and NP-799) are fairly popular, extensively used and preferred over other varieties. The total quantity of improved seeds distributed and exchanged during the different seasons in the Intensive Agricultural District Programme is as follows:—

Year.	Rabi. (In maunds.)	Kharif. (In maunds.)
1960	1,800	.
1961 . ..	12,662	4,799
1962 .. .	22,769	17,469
1963	33,402	54,358

The use of insecticides has also increased in the Intensive Agricultural District Programme area. Sale centres for insecticides have been opened in each Intensive Agricultural District Programme Block. About 90 thousand pounds of pesticides were used in the district during 1959-60 and over 2 lakh pounds during 1963-64.

A step has been taken towards the introduction of improved agricultural implements. About 5 thousand Mould Board ploughs, 744 paddy weeders and 184 other implements have been sold to the farmers in the package area so far (1963-64).

IMPACT OF PACKAGE PROGRAMME ON THE AGRICULTURISTS OF BUXAR BLOCK, DISTRICT SHAHABAD.

The package programme, i.e., Intensive Agricultural District Programme was started in the district as well as in the Buxar Block in 1960 for making an intensive improvement in agriculture of the agriculturists living in the area.

An investigation was made by the Research Assistants of Gazetteer Revision Branch in February-March, 1964 in Buxar Block. Three villages, viz., Kamarpur, Sonbarsa and Pandeypur were studied.

The details regarding the villages visited and persons examined are given below:—

(1) *Village Kamarpur*.—The village is at a distance of about five miles towards west of Buxar town. It has an area of 627 acres with 75 occupied houses according to the figures supplied by the Buxar Block Office. The total population is 1,134, i.e., 591 males and 543 females. The Bhumihars and the Koiris form the majority in the village. In the course of the investigation, twelve

persons were examined. The details of the respondents are given below.

The study of the impact on some of the farmers in the village participating in the programme was analysed. The names of the farmers of the said village are as follows:—

Sl. no.	Name of the Cultivator.	Caste.	Total land.	Kharif land.	Rabi land	Land under Package Programme.			
						1960.	1961.	1962.	1963.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
			Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres.	Acres.	Acres	Acres.
1	Sri Ram Nagina Rai	Bhumihar	12	8	4	1	1	1	2
2	Sri Ram Dutta Singh	Koiri	10	12	4	2	3	4	4
3	Sri Sidh Nath Rai	Bhumihar	32	25	7	3	3	4	6
4	Sri Kesho Giri	Goasain	6	4	2	Nil	Nil	1	2
5	Sri Nandji Singh	Koiri	6	3	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	2
6	Sri Kapildeo Singh	Koiri	25	17	7	Nil	1	2	5
7	Sri Sudama Rai	Bhumihar	32	25	7	6	6	12	16
8	Sri Jitan Rai	Bhumihar	10	7	3	Nil	Nil	1	2
9	Sri Sukhen Singh	Koiri	10	6	4	Nil	1	1	2
10	Sri Ram Yash Singh	Koiri	10	7	3	Nil	Nil	1	3
11	Sri Radha Singh	Koiri	10	7	3	Nil	Nil	2	3
12	Sri Satyadeo Rai	Bhumihar	10	8	2	Nil	Nil	1	2

(9) *Village Sonbarsa.*—The village is at a distance of about twelve miles towards south-west of Buxar town. It has an area of 306.40 acres with 70 households according to the figures supplied by the Block Office. The total population is 1,132, i.e., 618 males and 514 females. Brahmins form the bulk of the villagers. Details regarding the persons examined are given below:—

Sl. no	Name of the cultivator.	Caste.	Total land.	Kharif land.	Rabi land.	Land under Package Programme.		
						1961.	1962.	1963.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
			Acres	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1	Sri Hargovind Rai	Bhumihar	25	3	22	1	4	12
2	Sri Ram Kewal Mishra	Brahmin	12	2	10	1	8	9
3	Sri Bachajee Mishra	Brahmin	10	1	9	Nil	1	5
4	Sri Ram Lakhan Ahir	Gwala	3	Nil	3	1	2	2
5	Sri Harihar Mishra	Brahmin	24	3	21	1	6	10
6	Sri Bajrangi Mishra	Brahmin	10	2	8	1	5	7
7	Sri Dhan Mishra	Brahmin	20	3	17	Nil	7	15
8	Sri Udaya Mishra	Brahmin	20	2	18	Nil	Nil	3
9	Sri Sarbeshwar Mishra	Brahmin	10	2	8	1	2	7
10	Sri Ram Tyagi Mishra	Brahmin	10	1	9	1	2	3
11	Sri Sheo Prasad Lall	Kayastha	3	1	2	1	1	2
12	Sri Nokhlall Mishra	Brahmin	24	3	21	1	4	8
13	Sri Raghubar Mishra	Brahmin	16	2	14	1	2	7
14	Sri Chegan Pandey	Brahmin	7	Nil	7	1	1	3
15	Sri Bashitha Mishra	Brahmin	10	2	8	1	2	4

[illegible] Pandeypur.—The village is at a distance of 8 miles towards south-east of Buxar town. It has an area of 74.60 acres with 50 households. The total population is 442, i.e., 225 males and 217 females according to the figures supplied by the Buxar Block Office. Brahmins form the bulk of the population in the village. Details regarding the persons examined are as follows:—

Sl. no.	Name of the Cultivator.	Caste.	Total land	Kharif land	Rabi land.	Land under Package Programme 1961	1962.	1963
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
			Acres.	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres.
1	Sri Kailash Pati Pandey	Brahmin	8	2	6	1½	2	6½
2	Sri Ambika Pandey	Brahmin	9	3	6	1½	2	2
3	Sri Tarkeshwar Pandey	Brahmin	3	½	2½	½	½	1
4	Sri Dhanraj Pandey	Brahmin	8	½	6½	Nil	Nil	2
5	Sri Sheonarain Pandey	Brahmin	4	Nil	4	1	1	1
6	Sri Hanuman Pandey	Brahmin	4	½	3½	1	1	1½
7	Sri Bishwanath Pandey	Brahmin	4	½	3½	1	1	4
8	Sri Brahmdeo Pandey	Brahmin	3	½	2½	1	1	1
9	Sri Harihar Pandey	Brahmin	8	1½	6½	1	1	2
10	Sri Bindeshwari Pandey	Brahmin	4	½	3½	Nil	Nil	6
11	Sri Dharan Shankar Pandey	Brahmin	5	½	4½	1	1	5
12	Sri Kamaldhari Pandey	Brahmin	7	2	5	1	1	2
13	Sri Pashupati Pandey	Brahmin	3	Nil	3	Nil	Nil	1
14	Sri Jitan Pandey	Brahmin	3	Nil	3	Nil	1	2

From the tables indicated above, it appears that the incidence of participation in the package programme is increasing gradually. Prior to the inception of the programme, the villagers had to depend on natural rainfall, there being no irrigational facilities but this programme encouraged and helped the villagers in sinking irrigational tube-wells in the villages visited.

On an enquiry from Sudama Rai of village Kamarpur, Harihar Misra of village Sonbarsa and Kailashpati Pandey of village Pandeypur it was ascertained that the villages were at first apathetic and even suspicious of the package programme authorities. This was

due to the fact, as they alleged that they did not get proper help from the Block Development authorities since its inception in 1957. But later they were convinced of the constructive work under the package programme. The recommendations of the package programme contain on items like variety of seeds to be used, quantity of seed to be used, the methods of seed treatment, the methods for raising seed beds, transplantation, the quantity of various types of chemical fertilisers to be used, the methods and use of green manuring, use of insecticides for prevention of plant diseases, use of improved implements, etc. The periods on which crop should be irrigated have also been broadly indicated. Such methods were unknown to the villagers. The lands of the villages visited are sandy loam. Prior to the introduction of the package programme the villages usually practised indigenous method of cultivation. The main crops grown in the area were *bajra*, paddy and *jowar*, etc. On an enquiry from Sidh Nath Rai of village Kamarpur, Chegom Pandey of village Sonbarsa and Hanuman Misra of Pandeypur village it was ascertained that the lands of the said villages were mostly unirrigated. The Buxar Development Block could not be of much help to them. The Block constructed one irrigational well in each village as a result of which most of the cultivable lands remained unirrigated. The introduction of the package programme helped them and with the help of the package authorities seven tube-wells (electric) in village Kamarpur, six in village Sonbarsa and three in Pandeypur have been sunk by the villagers. They now produce wheat, gram, potato and the yield is much more. Some of the villagers mention that the produce is three to four times more now

(a) *The villages in I.A D.P.**

It has been discussed elsewhere that the villages selected for package programme were started working from 2nd October, 1960. The following data were supplied by the Package Office, Buxar:—

Item.		Village Kamarpur.	Village Pandeypur	Village Sonbarsa.
1. Total geographical area (acres)	..	627	74 60	306.40
2. Net cultivated area (acres) ..	..	580	67.73	242 15
3. Area under—Paddy (acres) ..	..	175	Nil	Nil
4. Area under—Wheat (acres) ..	..	115	18	51
5. Area under—Potato (acres) ..	.	15	15	18
6. Total irrigated area (acres) ..	..	180	26	150
7. Total agricultural families (Number)	..	60	17	28

* I. A. D. P.—Intensive Agricultural District Programme.

(b) Participation in the package programme.

Rabi (village Kamarpur).	1960-61.	1961-62.	1962-63.	1963-64.
1. No of families for which the plan prepared.	14	33	43	58
2. No. of families actually participated	14	33	43	58
3. Area for which the plan prepared (acres)	16	55	70	137
4. Area actually covered (acres)	16	55	70	137

Kharif	1961-62	1962-63.	1963-64.
1. No of families for which the plan prepared	32	40	54
2. No of families actually participated	32	40	54
3. Area for which the plan prepared (acres)	43	60	75
4. Area actually covered (acres)	43	60	75

Village (Pandeypur) Rabi	1961-62	1962-63.	1963-64.
1. No of families for which the plan prepared	10	3	2
2. No of families actually participated	10	3	2
3. Area for which the plan prepared (acres)	11.75	2.50	4
4. Area actually covered (acres)	11.75	2.50	4

Kharif	1961-62	1962-63	1963-64.
1 No of families for which the plan prepared	Nil	4	6
2 No of families actually participated	Nil	4	6
3 Area for which the plan prepared (acres)	Nil	12	15
4 Area actually covered (acres)	Nil	12	15

Village Sonbarsa—(Rabi)	1961-62	1962-63	1963-64.
1. No of families for which the plan prepared	23	20	24
2. No. of families actually participated	23	20	24
3. Area for which the plan prepared (acres)	24	26	91.50
4. Area actually covered (acres)	24	26	91.50

Kharif.	1961-62.	1962-63.	1963-64.
1. No. of families for which the plan prepared ..	21	22	24
2. No. of families actually participated	21	22	24
3 Area for which the plan prepared (acres) ..	36 50	53.50	81.50
4. Area actually covered (acres)	36.50	53 50	81.50

The output of the harvests has been found encouraged both in the farmers' plots and the demonstration plots covered under the programme of the villages visited. A few practical demonstrations are laid out on farmers' plots in different villages. The cultivation on the demonstration plot is done by the farmer himself under the guidance and supervision and with the help of the Village Level Worker and other technical staff of the Block Apart from the cost of seeds and fertilisers which are supplied from Government funds, all the cultivation expenses such as ploughing, sowing, transplantation, irrigation and all other cultural operations are met by the farmers. The entire produce of the demonstration plot of course belongs to the farmers

The results of the harvests have been obtained as the basis of random crop cutting survey conducted by the Package authorities in the villages in Buxar Block:—

Year	Average yield rate in maunds per acre for participating cultivators		Average yield rate in maunds per acre for non-participating cultivators	
	No. of observations.	Average yield rate	No of observations.	Average yield rate
		Maunds		Maunds.
1961 62 .	29	36	29	22
1962-63	23	26	23	16

The percentage increase in the yield in 1961 62 and 1962-63 records 49 and 43 respectively.

Wheat

1961-62	9	18	9	8
1962 63	28	17	28	8

The percentage increase in the yield in 1961-62 and 1962-63 records 112 and 33 respectively.

A sample study for 12 cultivators in Kamarpur, 15 cultivators in Sonbarsa and 14 cultivators in Pandeypur was made for an approximate estimate of the net return due to Intensive Agricultural Programme. The total area under Intensive Agricultural Programme in the villages visited was 175 acres for paddy, 184 acres for wheat and 48 acres for potato.

The average yield per acre in participated area was 25 maunds per acre for paddy, 18 to 20 maunds per acre for wheat and 200 to 250 maunds per acre for potato. From the study it was ascertained that the average yield per acre in those areas before the introduction of the Package Programme was 15 maunds per acre for paddy, 6 to 8 maunds per acre for wheat and 60 to 80 maunds per acre for potato. Thus the additional yield per acre in the participated areas in the villages visited was recorded as 10 maunds per acre for paddy, 8 to 10 maunds per acre for wheat and 120 to 150 maunds per acre for potato. This is due to the intensive method of cultivation implemented in the villages.

Though based on limited samples, the following estimates give an idea of the trend in agricultural productions and additional income to the farmers.

The table below will show the demonstration of crops made in the plots and yield result during 1960-61 to 1963-64 in the villages visited:—

Year	Name of the crop	No. of cultivators on whose field demonstrations laid out.	Total no of demonstrations laid out.	Total area covered by demonstration in acre	Average yield in maunds per acre	Average cost in demonstration in rupees
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Village Kamarpur.				
1960-61	Wheat	3	3	1½	17	85 00
	Potato	1	1	1	180	35 00
1961-62	Wheat	3	3	1	18	105 00
	Paddy	4	4	1½	23	125 00
	Potato	3	3	1½	190	120 00
1962-63	Paddy	6	6	2½	25	180.00
	Potato	5	5	2	200	145.00
1963-64	Potato	5	5	2½	215	160.00
	Paddy	4	4	1½	24	135.00

Year.	Name of the crop.	No. of cultivators on whose field demonstration laid out.	Total no. of demonstrations laid out	Total area covered by demonstration in acre.	Average yield in maunds per acre.	Average cost in demonstration in rupees.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Village Sonbarsa.				
1961-62	Wheat	1	1	½	15	30
	Potato	1	1	½	220	20
1962-63	Wheat	2	2	1	16	60
	Potato	2	2	1	218	40
1963-64	Wheat	2	2	1	14	65
	Potato	2	2	1	225	45
		Village Pandeypur.				
1961-62	Wheat	1	1	½	17	30
	Potato	1	1	½	240	20
1962-63	Wheat	1	1	½	18	35
	Potato	1	1	½	235	25
1963 64	Wheat	2	2	1	16	60
	Potato	2	2	1	225	45

INCREASED USE OF CHEMICAL FERTILISERS.

With the introduction of the package programme there is ready availability for getting chemical fertilisers as the Co-operative Societies in the villages themselves now sell them. The villagers do not have to go to Buxar to get such fertilisers as was the case before. As a result the cultivators have now become fertiliser minded and the sale of chemical manures has tremendously gone up.

The table below supplied by the Buxar Block Office will indicate the increase in the use of chemical fertilisers in the villages visited from 1961-62 to 1963-64.

Village Kamarpur.

	1961-62	1962-63.	1963-64.
1. Nitrogenous fertilisers .	2 tons	3 tons	5½ tons
2 Phosphatic fertilisers .	1 ton	2 tons	3 tons
3. Potashic fertilisers ..	57 mds	79 mds.	81 mds.

Village Sonbarsa.

	1961-62.	1962-63.	1963-64.
1. Nitrogenous fertilisers ..	2 tons	3½ tons	4 tons
2. Phosphatic fertilisers ..	48 mds.	57 mds	59 mds.
3. Potashic fertilisers ..	39 mds.	49 mds.	57 mds.

Village Pandeypur.

	1961-62.	1962-63	1963-64.
1. Nitrogenous fertilisers	1 ton	1½ ton	2 tons.
2 Phosphatic fertilisers	21 mds.	37 mds.	41 mds.
3 Potashic fertilisers	27 mds	31 mds.	37 mds.

The Co-operative Societies at villages Kamarpur, Sonbarsa and Pandeypur have been appointed sole agents of the Bihar State Co-operative Marketing Union for the sale of chemical fertilisers in the villages visited and the adjoining areas Besides, the villagers have been given medium and short-term loans through co-operative societies. In medium-term loan the loanees have to pay the loans taken by co-operative society within five years and in short-term loan the loanees have to pay the loans within a year There has been an increase in the number of co-operative societies in the rural areas.

The table below supplied by the Block Office, Buxar, will indicate the loans given in the villages visited under medium and short-term loans by co-operative societies from 1961-62 to 1963-64:—

Village Kamarpur.

	1961-62	1962-63.	1963-64.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Medium term loan payable within five years.	3,200	Nil	Nil
2. Short term loan payable within one year.	2,200	Nil	1,500

Village Sonbarsa.

	1962-63.	1963-64.
	Rs.	Rs.
1. Medium term loan payable within five years.	9,574	Nil
2. Short term loan payable within one year.	2,081	Nil

Village Pandeypur

	1962-63.	1963-64.
	Rs.	Rs.
1. Medium term loan payable within five years.	1,108	Nil
2. Short term loan payable within one year.	1,100	Nil

From the above figures it appears that during 1963-64 no medium term loan was given to the villagers. On enquiry from the Package authorities and also from Kailash Nath Pandey of village Pandeypur and Barmeshwar Mishra of Sonbarsa village, it was ascertained that due to non realisation of the loans from the members, the co-operative department has stopped to grant further loans unless the loaned amount is realised. For instance, it was reported by the *Mukhiya* of Sonbarsa village that a sum of Rs. 9,574 was given to the members of the Sonbarsa Co-operative Society out of which only Rs. 2,790 has been realised up to 1963 (December). Since then they are not getting any loan from the said society. Except for a very small portion of the medium term loans for purchase of bullocks and for making cash expenditure in connection with farm operations, practically the entire short term loan meant for items like chemical fertilisers, seeds, insecticides and small implements are given to farmers in kind.

Ordinarily a member could borrow only up to Rs. 200 on personal surety and for this it is essential to mortgage his land. In view of specific purposewise recommendations for the loan on the basis of farm production plan, the issue of the major portion of the loan in kind, and the supervision of the proper utilization of the loans and supplies under the Intensive Agricultural District Programme, the rule can be relaxed and the farmer participating in the programme can borrow up to Rs. 750 subject to the credit requirements indicated by him to the authorities.

DISTRIBUTION OF IMPROVED SEEDS.

The following quantities of improved seeds were distributed and exchanged in the villages visited in the different crop seasons:—

Village Kamarpur.

	1961-62.	1962-63.	1963-64. (up to Dec. '63).
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
1. *Rabi*			
1. Wheat ..	Nil	10	4
2. Potato .	40	50	27
2. *Kharif*			
1. Early paddy ..	43	10	12
2. Late paddy ..	16	Nil	Nil

Village Sonbarsa.

		1961-62.	1962-63.	1963-64. (up to Dec. '63).
1. *Rabi*		Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
1. Wheat	..	Nil	Nil	14
2. Potato	..	Nil	Nil	22
2. *Kharif*				
1. Early paddy	..	Nil	Nil	14
2. Late Paddy	..	Nil	Nil	10

Village Pandeypur.

		1961-62.	1962-63.	1963-64. (up to Dec. '63).
		Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
1. *Rabi*				
1. Wheat	..	Nil	Nil	17
2. Potato	..	Nil	Nil	32
2. *Kharif*				
1. Early paddy	..	Nil	Nil	11
2. Late paddy	..	Nil	Nil	7

The incidence of utilising improved seeds appears to have increased. The villagers interviewed appear to realise that a preliminary training for utilising such seeds is necessary. As a matter of fact the package programme authorities try to train the cultivators first and then supply them with improved seeds.

Use of Insecticides.

The Plant Protection Office at Buxar sells different types of insecticides to the Co-operative Societies based at the villages The cultivators can purchase the insecticides very easily.

The villagers are also taught the use of proper insecticides and they are now getting insecticide minded.

The following statement will show the quantity of insecticide sold:—

Village Kamarpur.

Years.				Quantity of insecticides.
				lbs.
1961-62	..	..	..	700
1962-63	..	..	..	800
1963-64 (up to December 1963).	..	..	..	750

Village Sonbarsa.

Years.	Quantity of insecticides.
	lbs.
1961-62	1,100
1962-63	1,500
1963-64	1,300
(up to December 1963).	

Village Pandeypur.

Years.	Quantity of insecticides.
	lbs.
1961-62	440
1962-63	500
1963-64	440
(up to December 1963).	

IMPROVED IMPLEMENTS.

In spite of the proper efforts, there has not been much of replacing the indigenous agricultural implements. This is mostly due to the economic incidence of the cultivators. However, on enquiry it was ascertained that *Sabash* ploughs are being introduced. There are 27 of them at Kamarpur, 29 at Sonbarsa and 7 at Pandeypur.

Irrigation.—Since 1961 six tube-wells have been sunk at Sonbarsa village and three at Pandeypur village. The villagers have contributed 50 per cent of the expenditure. There is one State tube-well at Kamarpur village. The tube-wells owned by private persons are exploited by other villagers

Conclusion.—The impact was studied in only three villages out of 113 populated villages of the Buxar Community Development Block. The number of villages surveyed may not be adequate but, nevertheless it gives some data as to the impact. From the discussion with the package officers and the villagers it may be said that the survey throws out a pattern which is common to the other areas under package programme as well. Apart from the statistics collected there was a certain amount of personal contact with the participants and the non-participants. It was gathered that the villagers fully appreciate the impact of the use of more irrigation, seeds, manures, etc. In spite of this information and credit being easily available, there has not been such wide response as could be expected. This is due to the fact that the villagers had not got a financial security that they could invest more on their lands.

They do realise that the extra cost involved in the use of better seeds, chemical manures, etc., will give them a higher yield. Yet there is a certain amount of apathy to put more and more lands under the package programme.

It is also felt that the package programme has yet to be pushed in. This is probably due to the personal equation of the villagers who still think that it is more the duty of the Government to advance loans, hold demonstrations, etc. It is likely that a part of the credit taken has been abused and that is why the loan is not being returned.

The cultivators who have participated in the Package Programme are gainers. For instance, a cultivator spends Rs. 120 per acre in irrigation, seeds, fertilizers and manual labour, etc., in wheat crop. The average yield per acre is 20 maunds. If he sells the wheat at the rate of Rs. 20 per maund, the total price will be Rs. 400.00 hence he earns Rs. 280.00 from wheat crop per acre. Secondly he has to incur Rs. 500.00 or Rs. 600.00 per acre in potato. The average yield per acre ranges between 200 to 250 maunds and the cultivator sells at the rate of Rs. 8.00 per maund. The price will be Rs. 1,600 00 per acre on the average. In this way he earns Rs. 1,000.00 per acre from potato. In paddy crop the cultivator spends Rs. 200 00 per acre. The yield from the crop is 25 maunds per acre on the average and the total price from the crop including rice bran is Rs. 600 00 per acre. Hence he earns Rs. 400 00 per acre from the yield.

It may be noted that the average yield from paddy, wheat and potato in non-participated land ranges between 12 to 15 maunds per acre, 8 to 10 per acre and 60 to 80 per acre respectively. The total expenditure in paddy, wheat and potato is Rs. 50, Rs. 75 and Rs. 200 per acre respectively in the lands which are not under Package Programme.

It may be mentioned that the State Government have sponsored the Rural Industries Project extending over an area of 284 square miles in the Buxar subdivision. The Project is primarily based in the area under the Package Programme. The surplus agricultural economy of the area may provide the base for the development of an Agro-Industrial economy Some such rural industries are food processing, hand-pounding of rice, oil-crushing, sheet metal works, handloom weaving, tailoring and carpentry, etc. In the three villages studied, however, there were no rural industries.

Piro Block.

An appraisal was sought to be made of the Intensive Agricultural Programme (commonly known as the Package Programme) in Piro Block. The following statements were supplied by the Project

Executive Officers indicating the working and the progress of the programme:—

STATEMENT I.

1. Name of the block—Piro Intensive Agricultural District Programme.

2. Date of starting the Package Programme—August, 1961.

3. Total number of families—16,638.

4. Population of the block—1,03,236.

5. Total number of agriculturist families—13,310.

6 Number of villages in the block—112.

7. Coverage of villages under Co-operative fold—112.

Progress of Co-operative Movement.

	30-6-1961	1961 62.	1962-63.	1963-64.	31-8-1964.
	Rs.	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs
1 No of Co-operative Societies	51	94	102	104	104
2. Membership enrolled	1,248	2,423	2,876	3,492	3,535
3. Share capital raised	30,577	52,470	70,283	84,404	85,770
4 Financing .. .	1,41,703	2,24,550	2,66,431	2,82,799	1,05,515
5. Demand . .	Not available.	1,24,600	1,99,400	2,06,829	..
6 Collection	Nil	1,13,000	2,03,000	1,97,000	Nil
7. Percentage	Nil	92	103	96	Nil
8. Number of agriculturist families covered.	1,188	2,278	2,638	3,070	3,113
9. Number of sale centres for fertiliser	4	4	43	48	48

STATEMENT II.

Year.	Number of village covered	Number of people participation executed	Area covered in acres.	Consumption of fertiliser.				Improved seed sold or exchanged.	Improved implements sold.				Insecticides used.
				Ammonium Sulphate in tons	Single Super phosphate in tons	Potash in tons	Total fertilisers in tons		Ploughs	Hand-hoe and rakes	Japanese weeder a.	Rehats	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1961-62 (*Rabi*)	34	633	927	59 3	36 0	9 0	104 31	136 00	7(61-62)		..	20	81 kgs. in 1961-62.
1962-63 (*Rabi*)	94	1,315	2,282	100 4	107 2	13 7	221 3	260 00	30(62 63)	..	.	91	.
1963-64 (*Rabi*)	99	1,595	3,205	142 47	81,82	17,09	241 30	588 20	211(63-64)	36	..	56	86 kgs in both *rabi* and *kharif*, 1962-63.
1962-63 (*kharif*)	81	1,439	4 050	234 9	129 6	34 4	398 0	330 00	.	.		.	..
1963-64 (*kharif*)	98	2,207	8,379	377 0	109 79	25 0	511 00	1,999 00		..	..		97 kgs. in both *rabi* and *kharif* in 1963-64.
1964-65 (*kharif*) up to August, 1964.	101	2,319	12,419	339 00	73 00	11 4	423.40	3,958 00	96(64-65)	35	26	13	521 kgs. and 180 cc in *kharif* 1964-65.

The figures appear to be impressive but certain further information called for could not be supplied and for want of all that it is difficult to come to precise conclusions. The Project Officer could not supply much information as to the improvement of marketing condition or development of communications leading to the improvement of the marketing conditions. It was given out that although seven *halka* godowns had been made for the storing of the agricultural produce of the cultivators to avoid selling in the buyers' market, they were actually being used for other purposes. Fertilizers and insecticides are being stored by the Project Organisation and not even one of the *halka* godowns was being used for the purpose for which it was made. On an enquiry it was found that not much work was being done by the *Vypar Mandals*. On the other hand the cultivators have to sell a good quantity of their produce till March in order to meet the loans, rent, etc. They could not possibly hold back the produce or the bulk of it through the lean period and take advantage of selling later in the sellers' market.

Another feature was that the participants would not put their *batai* lands under the scheme lest the *bataidars* acquire any statutory rights The tenurial lacunae stood on the way of a large area from getting under the scheme

The Project office has not tried to make any follow on study in any village and to strike out a balance sheet as to the actual cost of each of the participants under the scheme as compared with the cost before he opted to work under the scheme, the quantity of the surplus produce and how he utilises the surplus produce and what money value he had received. Without any such follow on study it will be only a generality that the produce has gone up by 10 maunds for *rabi* and 14 maunds for *kharif* Without any particular improvement in the marketing condition and help to the cultivator to keep back the surplus produce for selling in the seller's market it appears that the middlemen are the real beneficiaries. This personal opinion was also confirmed by personal enquiries from the cultivators, officials and non-officials. In certain villages of other blocks under the scheme the area has been found to be shrinking or variable from year to year The reasons have to be properly found out and squarely met. The figures of the total number of agriculturist families and the number of the participants usually show a big gap. The figures also do not show the total area with the block that could have been brought under the scheme and the area that has actually been brought under the scheme It is difficult to say from the study that the package programme has caught the imagination of the people and has become a source of self-generating dynamism At least a marginal if not a comfortable economic cushion in the participant is required to take full advantage of the Intensive Agricultural Programme under which easy loans are given and

fertilizers are sold It is a mistake to think that a man of sub-marginal economic incidence could be pulled out immediately under the scheme. There are also some complaints regarding the timely availability of water. This complaint being vague was not gone into and particularly because this is a canal irrigated area.

The figures of the quantity of the fertilizers sold and the loans advanced, and the increasing acreage of *rabi* and *kharif* crops under the Intensive Agricultural Programme are, somewhat, impressive. An investigation into the incidence of indebtedness of the participants before and after they started participating in the Package Programme would be a good indication of any concrete results But it has to be remembered that Piro Block has been somewhat economically advanced, from before and has had large villages, a few *hats* and Piro as a place of considerable trade importance. The existence of a water patch just by the side of the Project office with the thick growth of water hyacinth is a depressing sight, particularly because water hyacinth offers a good compost Apparently no imagination has been shown by teaching the people the importance of the eradication of water hyacinth and using it as compost.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY.

The possession of livestock generally adds to the social status of the farmer In the last District Gazetteer (1924), particular mention was made of the mediocre stamp of the cattle It was particularly observed that little care was taken in selecting bulls for breeding The quality of the livestock has had some improvement since because of serious efforts of the Government and the response of the farmers.

The district has quite a large population of prosperous agriculturists mostly due to the facilities of canal irrigation. The farmers in the canal irrigated area have a considerable cattle wealth Any one observant in his journey from Arrah to Sasaram must have been struck with the number and quality of the cattle by the roadside. The Kaimur hills offer excellent pasturage for a part of the year. Hundreds of cattle are taken in different herds to Adhaura side for pasturage Cattle from other districts are also taken to the Kaimur hills for pasture They remain there for several months

The table below will indicate the livestock population in the district from 1920 to 1956*—

Year	Total cattle	Total Buffaloes	Sheep	Goats	Pigs.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1920	8,12,684	2,50,698	1,07,879	45,699	..
1925	8.21,002	2,78,345	1,29,711	1,45,876	..

* Figures up to 1951 have been taken from *District Census Handbook* (1951), *Shahabad*, *pages* 112 113 and figures of 1956 from the *Statistical Handbook of* 1957, p. 56.

Year.	Total cattle.	Total Buffaloes.	Sheep.	Goats.	Pigs.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1930 ..	8,46,870	2,96,386	1,19,329	83,799	..
1940 ..	7,72,643	2,63,592	1,38,386	1,08,869	38,820
1945 .	6,66,450	2,33,420	64,058	58,867	29,614
1951 ..	8,60,108	3,05,681	76,813	1,46,300	16,710
1956	9,19 688	3,22,947	1,18,321	1,76,671	20,133

The figures of 1945, showing a decrease under each of the heads, are easily explained by the heavy drain of livestock due to the exigencies of the Second World War. But an increase is noticed in the animal wealth of the district when the figures of 1951 and 1956 are compared with that of 1945 This shows that there is a tendency towards increase in the cattle wealth of the district

Poultry.

Poultry is indigenous to certain sections of Muslims and Hindus. In the Muslim villages and where certain low caste Hindus predominate, birds are reared to add to the income of the family. But usually the birds are small and very little care taken to rear them They are let loose to peck food for themselves and occasionaly some paddy or husk is given. With the increase in the price of birds and eggs and a good market readily available, the margin of profit is quite good. But there is not much attempt to keep birds of better breed

The State Government are keen to improve the quality of the poultry and to make more birds available. There are now one Poultry Development Centre at Dehri and five hatching centres at Dumraon, Behia, Sasaram, Chenari and Bhabua. In 1957-58 only 250 birds had been distributed in the district In 1961-62 as many as 1,631 birds and 2,530 eggs were distributed. Even this number is small and it must be said that there has been very poor overall progress. There is a very great scope for improving the breed of ordinary birds besides and for including higher breeds like White Leghorn, Minorca or Rhode Island Red. Ideas of improved poultry management, storage of eggs, rearing of chicks, incubation in village conditions and protection against poultry epidemics have to be spread. Better facilities for the marketing of eggs and birds have to be made available. The centres often supply one-day old chicks and it is difficult for villagers to keep them alive.

The table below will show the figures of poultry in Shahabad district for 1945* and in 1956** –

Year	Hens.	Cocks	Chickens	Ducks.	Drakes	Ducklings.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1945	31,519	13,323	44,358	1,368	1,024	599
1956	46,937	27,698	57,032	3,118	1,610	1,498

The figures indicate that more poultry is being kept now.

Animal Diseases and Veterinary Dispensaries.

Cattle diseases frequently spread in epidemic form The common disease are rinderpests, haemorrhagic, blackquarter, anthrax and foot and mouth diseases.

The table below will show the incidence of outbreak and death from diseases from 1940-41 to 1962-63†:—

Year	Rinderpest		Haemorrhagic		Blackquarter		Foot and mouth disease		Ranikhet disease	
	Seizure	Death	Seizure	Death	Seizure	Death	Seizure	Death	Seizure	Death
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1940-41	.	962		89				0	.	.
1941-42		55		522		..	..	2	.	.
1942-43		31		96		..		4		.
1943-44		46	.	106		.	.	1	.	..
1944-45		704		63				4		.
1956-57	1,916	666		444	273	194	1,800		15	10
1957-58	1,037	379	.	118	52	35	1,906	1	77	52
1958-59	35	15	..	200	199	130	3,037	2	195	174
1959-60	6	1	.	266	493	301	2,522	2	52	48
1960-61	.			123	78	40	2,548	25	22	16
1961-62	..			235	75	67	861		156	128
1962-63				204	122	65	1,215	1	241	98

* *Report on the Livestock Census of Bihar* (1945), pages 54-55

** *Ibid* (1956), pages 94-95

†The figures up to 1944-45 have been taken from Report on the *Livestock Census of Bihar* (1946), pages 86-87 and figures from 1956-57 have been supplied from the *Animal Husbandry Office*, Arrah.

It is correct to think that the figures are underestimated as all the cases of seizure and death are not reported.

The incidence of cattle mortality appears to have decreased for some diseases owing to medical aid available in the veterinary hospitals, static and mobile dispensaries. Outbreaks are tackled with sera and vaccine.

Mass inoculation is done for which specific vaccines are available. The Rinderpest Eradication Scheme sponsored by the Government has controlled to some extent the spread of this epidemic

Regarding the dispensaries the last District Gazetteer (1924) mentioned that there was a veterinary hospital at Arrah, and veterinary dispensaries at Arrah, Buxar, Sasaram and Bhabua under the District Board The hospital at Arrah treated 1,260 animals in 1922, as against 764 in 1909; and it was evidently growing in popularity.

The most prevalent disease among cattle was rinderpest which was particularly rife in 1916-17, when 9,462 cattle were affected of whom 6,810 died.

Now the District Board dispensaries have been provincialised.

Following class I dispensaries are now running in this district (1964):—

Sadar subdivision—(1) Arrah, (2) Piro, (3) Behia, (4) Jagdishpur, (5) Koilwar, (6) Barhara, (7) Shahpur, (8) Sandesh, (9) Sahar, (10) Tarari, (11) Charpokhari, and (1) Udwantnagar

Buxar subdivision—(1) Buxar proper, (2) Brahmpur, (3) Dumiaon, (4) Rajpur, (5) Chausa, (6) Nawanagar, (7) Semri, and (8) Itarhi.

Bhabua subdivision.—(1) Bhabua, (2) Kudra, (3) Durgauti, (4) Bhagwanpur, (5) Adhaura, (6) Chainpur, (7) Chand, (8) Mohania, and (9) Ramgarh.

Sasaram subdivision.—(1) Sasaram, (2) Tilothu, (3) Bikramganj, (4) Darigaon, (5) Kochas, (6) Sheosagar, (7) Chenari, (8) Akbarpur, (9) Nauhatta, (10) Dehri, (11) Chilbilla, (12) Nasriganj, (13) Rajpur, (14) Karakat, (15) Dawat, (16) Dinara, (17) Nokha, and (18) Karaghar.

Dairy Farming.

Mostly *goalas*, who are professional cowherds, keep herds of cows and buffaloes and trade in cow and buffalo milk. There are four privately-managed *goshalas* in the district located at Arrah, Buxar, Dehri and Sasaram. At these *goshalas* cows and buffaloes are maintained but the standard of maintenance seems to be poor.

In order to organise the sale of pure milk and improve the quantity of milk, the State Government have encouraged the existing *goshalas* to adopt modern lines. The Government have distributed Hariana bulls and cows to the *goshalas* at Arrah, Dehri, Sasaram and Buxar. Government has contributed Rs 5,000 for each *goshala* for construction of building and has also added 10 Hariana cows for each *goshala* Over and above this the Government had given economical aid and Rs. 2,000 per year for maintenance of cows in a better way. Only since 1963 the aid has been stopped.

The sheep population of the district according to 1951 and 1956 Livestock Censuses was 76,813 and 1,18,321 respectively There has been a marked increase in the population of sheep which is apparent from the figures. The areas where sheep population is concentrated in the district are at Dehri, Sasaram, Buxar, Nasriganj, Bhabua, etc.

There is no specified pasture ground in the district. Only idle and fallow lands are used as pasture grounds for the sheep population Hilly tracts also provide some grazing for the livestock. One special unit for each area, viz, Bhabua, Dehri and Nasriganj have been operating The object of which is to concentrate their activities for development works, control of diseases, distribution of Bekaneri rams for cross-breeding, distribution of Scissors for shearing sheep with latest method of shaving and grading of wool, etc. The shepherds are trained in the art of shaving.

The shepherds of the district rear wool out of sheep and manufacture blankets It is a good cottage industry for the shepherds. The State Government has started three sheep breeding centres at Nasriganj, Dehri and Bhabua

Hariana Cattle Breeding Farm, Dumraon

It was started in 1949 under the Post-War Development scheme at Dumraon. The cows and bulls were purchased from the Hariana breeding tracts of the Punjab in 1950 with a view to produce pedigree bulls for distribution in district for improving the local breeds. The people of the district feel the need of improved breeds and the demand of pedigree bulls is on the increase.

About 394.76 acres of forest land which was locally known as *Bhikna Bundh* at Dumraon, was selected for the establishment of a cattle breeding farm and the same land was acquired at the total cost of Rs. 1,97,660. The farm has up till now (1963) reclaimed 4,081 acres of land growing green fodder and 44 76 acres have been used for constructing farm building, cattle sheds and roads.

At present (1963) the farm has a total strength of about 1,400 Hariana and Shahabadi cattle. The maximum lactation range has gone up to 5,000 lbs. a day. The surplus milk products are booked by rail for Arrah and Patna.

Pedigree bulls produced at the farm are distributed to the breeders and farmers of the districts of Shahabad, Patna, Gaya and Saran in Bihar and Ballia and Ghazipur in Uttar Pradesh.

Cattle Breeding.

Except Hariana breed the other local breed is of poor quality. Efforts have been made by the Animal Husbandry Department to improve the quality of local breed by cross-breeding with improved variety of bull of Hariana breed. Hariana breed cattle serve double purposes. They are better milk producer and their bull calves are more virile and useful for improved cultivation. Artificial insemination centres have been opened at Arrah, Bhabua, Sasaram, Buxar, Dehri, Dumraon, and Bihea with 30 sub-centres for improving local breed. Improved rams and *jamunapari* bucks are also distributed for upgrading the local sheep and goat.

The following statement will show the number of insemination work done at in the district.—

1959-60—12,148.

1960-61—21,033

1961 62—23,862.

1962-63—24,063.

FODDER CROPS

The indigenous fodders are stalks of maize, paddy, *marua*, *bajra* and leaves of *rahar* plants. Husk of wheat, barley, gram and *masoor* are also used as fodder Green fodder is essential but is in short supply

The cultivation of green fodder like *napier, para, jowar,* etc , and legume like barseem have been encouraged. It appears that the farmers are more inclined to grow edible crops than fodder. The total area under fodder crops varies widely and not much reliance can be put on the available figures.

FISHERIES.

The large number of rivers, streams, low-lying fields where water accumulates in the rainy season, ponds and marshes indicate a rich fish potentiality for this district

In 1952, the fisheries section which was under the Industries Department before was transferred to the Agriculture Department The Fisheries Development Schemes of the district are managed by an Inspector of Fisheries posted at Arrah under the administrative control of the District Agriculture Officer at Arrah and under the Assistant Fishery Development Officer posted at Patna. Similarly the fisheries schemes of the subdivision are looked after by fisheries nurseries supervisors posted at each subdivisional headquarters under

the control of the Subdivisional Agricultural Officers and the Inspector of Fisheries at Arrah. Besides that there is an additional Fisheries Inspector posted at Arrah to look after the Fisheries Development Works of Sone Canal There are three Fisheries Supervisors posted at Banjari, Dehri and Koilwar to regulate the conservational measures in river Sone.

The following are the schemes for the development of the fisheries of the district·—

Seed collection and distribution

Since seed plays an important role, the four species of quick growing major carps, i e, the *rohu, catla, naini* and *kalbose* have been selected for culture in tanks and ponds These fishes breed only in rivers and not in stagnant water The spawn are collected every year during the rains from river Sone at Dehri and Koilwar and from river Ganga at Buxar The spawn collected are sent to the nursery tanks at subdivisional headquarters and reared When they attain a size of ½" they are sold to the tank owners at the subsidised rate of Rs 7 before August and Rs 9 after that per thousand fish fry for culture in their tanks

Sanctuary in river Sone.

Fishes have got the tendency of moving up and down in the current in search of food and for breeding purposes. With the construction of anicut in river Sone at Dehri, fishes used to congregate on both the sides of the anicut and consequently they were being caught in large quantity This naturally resulted in depletion of fish in the river To save fishes from mass slaughter near the anicut and to protect the breed fishes, spawn and fry of major carps, the whole course of the river in this district has been declared as sanctuary through the following measures:—

(*i*) Complete prohibition of fishing in an area two miles up and one mile down the river near anicut

(*ii*) Prohibition of capture and race of young carps of the species of *rohu, catla* up to 6" size from the month of June to October.

(*iii*) Prohibition of capture and sale of breed of major carps for consumption from June to September

Fisheries Storage and Marketing

Facilities are given for the preservation of fish at the surplus market and their transport to deficit ones. One Fisheries Marketing Supervisor has been posted at Buxar for this purpose

Demonstration and Propaganda.

(*a*) *Exhibition*.—Each block has been provided with a set of fisheries charts, models, etc., to educate the public regarding the technique of pisciculture on scientific lines.

(*b*) *Supply of fisheries nets*.—Each block has been supplied with cast net and drag net to supply the public on hire for the exploitation of the fisheries.

(*c*) *Paddy-cum-fish culture*.—Demonstration of fish culture in paddy fields has resulted in 10 to 15 per cent increase in the yield of paddy. The site of the demonstration is changed every year from one *halka* to another and fish fry are supplied free of cost to the villagers for demonstration purposes.

(*d*) *Manurial Demonstration*.—Manuring in fish ponds gives better result. To educate tank-owners for proper manuring in tanks, one demonstration is conducted by the Fishery Department and manures are supplied free of cost for the purpose.

Fishermen Welfare

Fishermen as a class are very poor, illiterate and backward. To help them the following schemes have been taken up in this district:—

(*a*) *Supply of craft and tackles*.—Fishermen are supplied yarns and twines for making the nets. Boats and other fisheries articles for helping fish exploitation are supplied through the Fishermen's Co-operative Societies.

(*b*) *Night Schools*.—Three night schools have been started at Arrah, Buxar and Sasaram to give primary education to the fishermen and their children. In these schools they are also supplied with free books, slates, pencils, etc. Besides literacy the fishermen are also given some ideas of pisciculture. At present (1964) there are about one hundred and fifty students on the roll and three teachers in these schools but the percentage of the adult students is very poor.

Development of Fisheries in the Sone Canal.

There are vast stretches of water available to develop fisheries in the distribution system of the Sone Canal, the *jheels*, under drainage scheme and behind the dams of major irrigation projects. It has been found that there is a potential for the prospect of large number of seedlings and fish food supply.

The statement given below will show the development of fisheries in the district from 1956-57 to 1961-62:—

Serial no	Name of Scheme	1956-57.	1957-58.	1958-59.	1959 60	1960 61.	1961-62.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Spawn collection (in *Batties*)	190	327	299	293	284	184
2	Fry distribution (in lakhs)	5 66	6 65	7 42	7 92	9 02	26
3	Management and Exploitation of Government Tanks (in acres).	30	30	35	66	82 [illegible]	10 17
4	Paddy-*cum*-Fish Culture (in acres)	3	7	17.5	23	26	3
5	Manurial demonstration of tanks (nos)	3	7	12	14	26	
6.	Development of the Sone Canal Fisheries —		..	..			
	(a) Fingerlings collection (in lakhs).	.	0 70	2.45	2 07	3 04	3 [illegible]
	(b) Fingerlings stocked in Canal		0 32	1 54	0 74	1 42	2 10

There are certain castes like Mallah, Turha, Bind. etc., whose traditional occupation is to catch fish. Owing to their poor finances and want of organisation, they hand over the bulk of the catch to the middlemen who are usually Kurmis and Muslims. The middlemen make much more money than the actual fishermen. There are also a few big fish-merchants in the district.

Details of the fish trade have been given in the text on "Banking, Trade and Commerce".

Forestry.

Regarding Forests, the last District Gazetteer (1924) mentioned as follows:—

"The only forests in the district are those scattered over the Kaimur hills: the growth, however, is not luxuriant, and there is now no large timber left. The first scientific examination of these forests appears to have been made in 1872, when an officer of the Forest Department visited the plateau. The result was disappointing: not one tree was met with from which a twenty-foot beam could be cut; the height and girth of most of the trees were small, and it was reported that the timber was not worth conserving. The local officers thereupon pointed out that owing to the absence of any system of conservancy in the past, the forests had

suffered from reckless clearance and repeated conflagrations, and they urged that it was advisable to develop what remained and to stop the indiscriminate destruction which was going on. As a result of this representation, an Assistant Conservator was sent in 1876 to re-examine the tract; and he reported that though the forest on the Rohtas plateau was inferior, the slopes were fairly wooded, bamboos were plentiful and the mixed forest contained a fair amount of *sida, persar, khair* and ebony. On the Rehal tableland *sal* and a considerable growth of ebony was found, and the Bans-i-Khoh valley contained an ebony forest in which that tree grew to fine dimensions None of the blocks contained much large timber, but there was a fair amount of young growth, and it was held that large timber would be produced if the forests were protected against reckless cutting The Conservator accordingly recommended that they should be reserved, and Government having decided to reserve an area of thirty-eight square miles divided it into four blocks (the Rohtas-plateau, the Rohtas slopes, the Rehal plateau and the Bans-i-khoh), a notification was issued in September 1876 declaring them Forest Reserves It was subsequently ascertained, however, that this notification included areas which were not the property of Government, and it was accordingly cancelled in 1879 Until 1895 nothing was done to protect or develop the natural forest growth, but in that year the area which had been reserved in 1876 was proclaimed protected forest * Much of the forest has however now gone, the southern half of the Rohtas plateau is almost completely denuded and even the northern part is very poorly stocked; it is covered for the most part with scrub jungle and there is no continuous area of large timber, but some fine trees grow near the Fort which give the grounds a park like appearance On the Rehal plateau there are some patches of fair timbers, but the *sal* is stunted and of small dimensions, and the old trees are gnarled and twisted. Timber of all sorts appears to decay early, and the *sal* grows in narrow irregular belts interspersed with mixed forest of inferior character. Practically the only articles of export are bamboos, which grow in great profusion along the slopes of the hills and plateau."**

* Notification no. 5441, dated December 16th, 1895 (*Calcutta Gazette*, 1895, part I., page 1208).

** *District Gazetteer of Shahabad*, 1924, pages 72-73.

At present (January, 1964) the forests of this district have been divided into six ranges, viz., Sasaram, Rehal, Rohtas, Chenari, Adhaura and Bhabua. Each of the ranges is placed under a range officer. They are under the administrative control of Divisional Forest Officer, Sasaram with his headquarters at Sasaram.

Sasaram range consists of 97.05 square miles. There are two beats, namely, Dargaon and Tilauthu and 14 sub-beats under this range

Rehal range consists of 123.70 square miles. There are two beats, namely, Rehal and Jadunathpur and 14 sub-beats under this range. Afforestation work is going on in this range.

Rohtas range consists of 71.91 square miles. There are two beats, namely, Akbarpur (30.93 square miles) and Pareha (40.98 square miles) and 15 sub-beats under this range. Afforestation work is going on

Chenari range consists of 126 97 square miles. There are two beats, namely, Malhipur East (72.52 square miles) and Malhipur west (54 46 square miles) and 18 sub-beats under this range.

Adhaura range consists of 106.94 square miles. There are two beats, namely, Adhaura (59.81 square miles) and Chandharna (47.13 square miles) and 11 sub-beats under the range. Afforestation work is going on

Bhabua range consists of 163.95 square miles. There are three beats, namely, Bhagawanpur (51.33 square miles), Sheopur (59.20 square miles) and Kasar (53.72 square miles) and there are 21 sub beats under this range.

The details will be found in the Chapter 'General'.

State Assistance to Agriculturists.

Agriculturists, big or small, usually need credit facilities. The normal sources of credit have been discussed elsewhere. The State assistance to farmers by giving loans under the Agriculturists' Loans Act, 1884 and the Land Improvement Loans Act, 1883. Loans are normally given for relief of distress, purchase of seed or cattle or any other purpose in connection with agriculture

Under the Land Improvement Loans Act, vide Board's notification no. 13-42-5, dated the 1st July 1952, the Collector is competent to sanction loans up to Rs 5,000, and with the previous sanction of the Commissioner up to Rs. 10,000 for any one work. The Sub-divisional Officer is competent to sanction loan up to Rs. 1,000. Any loan beyond Rs. 10,000 requires the previous sanction of the Board

Under the Agriculturists' Loans Act, 1884, vide Board's notification no. 13-42-4, dated the 2nd July 1952, the Subdivisional Officer is competent to grant loans up to Rs 500 in each case, the Collector is competent to sanction such loans up to Rs 5,000 and with the sanction of the Commissioner up to Rs. 10,000 in each case Any loan beyond Rs. 10,000 requires the previous sanction of the Board. There are various formalities which have to be observed before loans are given

It is a common complaint that the loans are not quickly available This is due to the implementation of the formalities which are obligatory The loans under the Land Improvement Loans Act are generally repayable in instalments within a period not exceeding 20 years, while the loans under the Agriculturists' Loans Act are repayable within one or two years The dates for repayment of loans under both the Acts are fixed by the Collector with due regard to the dates of harvest of principal crops, and under the Land Improvement Loans Act the time when the profit begins The ordinary rate of interest on both the types of loans is 6¼ per cent per annum.

The table below supplied by the Land Reforms Section, Shahabad, gives the figures of loans advanced under the Agriculturists Loans Act and Land Improvement Loans Act from 1954-55 to 1962-63:—

Year	Loans under Agriculturists Loans Act	Loans under Land Improvement Loans Act
	Rs	Rs
1954-55	1,43,530	62,748
1955-56	20,88,600	37,187
1956-57	2,09,144	21,480
1957-58	12,98,191	8,250
1958-59	10,05,310	13,570
1959-60	69,175	15,400
1960-61	53,400	4,400
1961-62	1,50,550	46,000
1962-63	57,600	28,600

From the figures stated above, it appears that in 1955-56 and 1957-58 the incidence of loans advanced under the Agriculturists' Loans Act was very high. It is due to the fact that in 1955-56 there were high floods in the rivers Sone and Ganga. Secondly, during 1957-58 there was scarcity in the district because of loss of *aghani* paddy due to the failure of *Hathia* rains.

Configuration of the District and the Floods.

The frequent inundation in the district of Shahabad is due to the configuration of the district The district is bounded by rivers. It is bounded on the north by the Ganga, on the south and the east by the Sone, on the west and south-west by Karmnasa. The low-lying tracts by the side of the river Ganga are usually liable to heavy floods. The most destructive floods, however, come from the Sone, particularly when its water is forced back over the adjoining areas by a simultaneous rise in the Ganga. The simultaneous rise of the Ganga checked the natural outlet and there was a heavy flood. Since the middle of the nineteenth century there are records of heavy floods in years 1848, 1864, 1876, 1884, 1888, 1892, 1901, 1906, 1913, 1916-17, 1923, 1934, 1946, 1947-48, 1956-57 and 1961-62.

In September, 1901, the river Sone at Koilwar rose in two days from 9 feet to 22 feet and caused a number of breaches on the eastern bank Those breaches were responsible for the damage to the crops and to a large number of houses in many villages. Some hamlets on the outskirts of the town of Arrah were also destroyed while the country west of Sone was a vast sheet of water. It has been described that at some places the water was near about 17 miles broad It is calculated that about 7,000 houses were destroyed by this flood.

There were heavy floods in the months of August and September of 1916 affecting the area north of the Koilwar-Buxar road and the country adjoining the lower reaches of the Sone The Ganga at Buxar rose to 33 feet 10 inches and affected an area of about 250 square miles The floods in 1916 were followed by another heavy flood in the next year, i e, 1917 in the course of which about 217 houses were washed away. In both these years there was a simultaneous flood in the river Sone In each year the flooded Sone was put up and forced back over the neighbouring country by a great wall of water which came down in the Ganga flood, and practically all the parts of Arrah town were inundated Relief measures were undertaken by the Collector and District Board The Maharaja of Dumraon liberally took measures for the relief of his tenantry.

Flood of 1923 —There was a very heavy and destructive flood in August, 1923 caused by a simultaneous rise of the Sone and the Ganga The normal level of the Sone at Dehri was 326 feet above the sea level. The level rose to 343.90 feet which was 1 20 feet higher than the highest flood level hitherto recorded at Dehri in 1906. The flood water entered the town of Arrah and widely affected the areas in the thanas of Arrah, Barhara, Sandesh and Nasriganj. The railway was breached for a distance of about three miles between Arrah and Kulharia. There were also some ravages to the west of the town of Arrah. Many of the streets of Arrah town

were flooded and nearly one-third of the houses in Arrah were destroyed or washed away including the house of the Executive Engineer The following table will show the effect of the floods of 1923:—

Name of areas affected	No of houses in the area	Houses destroyed	Crops destroyed		Loss of human life	Loss of cattle.
			Bhadai in bighas.	Paddy in bighas		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Arrah Municipal area	8,755	2,869		.	3	31
Arrah mufassil	16,595	7,299	18,944	14,050	8	413
Barahara	12,189	4,456	8,232	15		714
Sandesh	9,333	2,654	15 635	4,374	15	574
Sahar .	3,146	1,252	386	241	1	47
Total	50,018	18,530	43,197	18,680	27	1,779

The total area affected by this flood was about 260 square miles. The area excluding the Sahar thana formed a triangle, the breach in the Sone bank at Turkaul north of Sandesh as its apex, the Ganga being the base and the side being a line running north-west from the Turkaul breach and crossing the East Indian Railway line (now Eastern Railway) five miles west of Arrah.

As the flood had affected the water supply system of Arrah town the State Government gave a grant of Rs. 10,000 to the Arrah Municipality to enable them to put in order the town water-supply. A grant of Rs 35,000 was disbursed in loans for the reconstruction of the houses in Arrah town. A sum of Rs. 65,000 was placed at the disposal of the Collector to be spent on gratuitous relief Six lakhs of rupees was made available to the Collector for distribution as *taccavi* loans Blankets, fodder, food stuffs and mats were widely distributed to meet the havoc.*

Flood of 1934-35 *and* 1946.—There were heavy floods in the Ganga and Sone which damaged paddy crops during 1934-35 and Government granted relief to landless labourers.

The subsequent floods of 1934 and 1946 were also severe, Measures were promptly taken by the State Government and the public to give relief to the flood-affected population.

Flood of 1948.—The heavy flood in 1948 was marked by a longer duration than the floods in the past. The area under heavy inundation was about 357 square miles. The level at the gauge at Buxar

* Summarised from the *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), pages 86-87

rose to 33 feet slightly below the level in the flood of 1916. There were two durations of the flood. In the first spell Bhabua subdivision had the worst of it. There was incessant and heavy rainfall and all the hill streams in Bhabua subdivision were overflooded and inundated the adjoining areas. The main roads like Arrah-Sasaram Road, Mohania-Bhabua Road and the Grand Trunk Road were overflooded and breached at some places. This flood occurred in the first week of August, 1948.

The second spell came in the first part of the month of September, 1948. There was heavy rainfall in the last week of August and the river Ganga began to rise from the first of September. The danger level of the flood was crossed by the 6th September and on the 11th of September the water level had reached 7½ inches above the danger level. The water had gone over the Patna-Arrah-Buxar Road. At certain points the water went over the railway. There was another heavy rise in the Sone from the 13th September as a result of a very heavy downpour. Arrah town was inundated. From the 15th September, the water level of Ganga river began to recede in the Sadar and Buxar subdivisions. In the second spell of the flood Bhabua subdivision was again affected. This flood in Bhabua subdivision had subsided by the end of September.

There was a very great strain on the administrative machinery and the non-official public to meet the exigencies of this heavy flood. The officials and the non-officials pooled their resources and rescue and evacuation operations were well co-ordinated. About 15,000 persons and nearly an equal number of livestock were evacuated from the flood-affected villages to the neighbouring unaffected villages on a higher level for temporary shelter. Twelve evacuation camps were opened at different places in the district and each was placed under a magistrate. About 10,000 evacuees were given shelter and food at these camps. The livestocks were also looked after. Besides these camps, there were several relief centres where supply of food, rugs, mat, shelters and fodder were distributed free. A number of fair price shops were opened where foodgrains were sold at cheaper rates. Quick steps were taken to disinfect wells, tanks and ponds. Mass inoculation against cholera epidemic was arranged for. Free medicines for various other diseases were made available.

From records it appears that the total number of villages affected during this flood was 538. Out of this 57 villages in the Sadar subdivision, 57 villages in Buxar subdivision and 21 villages in Bhabua subdivision were described to be the worst affected ones. The bulk of the affected people came from Buxar subdivision. It was calculated that about 50 to 60 per cent of the mud-built houses in the affected villages were damaged or washed away.

The following statement shows the allotment and expenditure for flood relief in the district:—

Subdivision	Gratuitous grant.		House building grant		Free seed purchase grant.		House building loan grant.	
	Allotment.	Expenditure.	Allotment.	Expenditure.	Allotment.	Expenditure.	Allotment.	Expenditure.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Rs	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Arrah Sadar	34,000	34,000	1,65,000	1,65,000	25,000	25,000	1,25,000	3,850
Buxar ..	24,500	24,500	1,65,000	1 65,000	25,000	25,000	1,25,000	..
Sasaram	7,000	7,000	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bhabua	Figures not available.							

Flood of 1956.—The high flood in 1956 was caused by the simultaneous floods in the rivers Sone and Ganga. The highest flood level recorded by the Sone was 32 feet 8 inches on the 17th August while the danger level is 28 feet. The highest flood level of the river Ganga was recorded at 30 feet 4 inches on the 16th August. The rivers in Bhabua and Sasaram subdivisions like Durgawati and Karmanasha also had sudden rise These rivers affected a large area in Bhabua, Mohani, Ramgarh, Chand and Durgawati police-stations

The table below shows the area and the population affected by the flood of 1956.—

Subdivision.	Total area in square miles.	Area affected in square miles.	Total population of the subdivision.	Population affected.
1	2	3	4	5
Sadar .	920	413	8,85,270	3,17,000
Buxar .	683	412	5,36,754	3,14,181
Bhabua .	1,237	334	4,40,138	1,59,000
Sasaram ..	Figures not available.			
Total .	2,840	1,159	18,62,162	7,90,181

Adequate measures for giving relief to the affected population were quickly taken. Gratuitous grants and agricultural loans were distributed for reconstruction of the damaged houses and for the cultivation of the lands Medical relief was also arranged

Flood of 1961-62.—The high flood in 1961-62 was caused by the flood in river Ganga which continued for a longer period and damaged the standing crops of Brahmpur, Semari and Buxar Anchals.

The flood visited Brahmpur, Semari and Buxar Anchals on 9th August 1961 and continued up to the 20th October 1961. It is remarkable that from August to October, a period of three months there were five times that the river Ganga arose. In this period, 439 houses of Brahmpur and 350 houses of Semari Anchals were affected. Some heads of cattle were lost but no human life. Boats were engaged to maintain communication and to help the flood-affected people. About 32 hired boats were supplied to Brahmpur, 37 to Semari and 15 to Buxar Anchals to maintain communication and to save the flood-affected people. Besides this, 19 fair price shops in Brahmpur, 29 in Semari and 1 in Buxar Anchals were opened. Gratuitous relief was also distributed among the flood-affected people.

Floods, Famines and Scarcity

On a reference to *Hunter's Statistical Account of the District of Shahabad* (1877), it will be seen that according to him "Droughts arising from deficient rainfall and the want, which is now being remedied, of an extensive and complete system of irrigation, frequently caused considerable distress. Four times in the course of five years in 1865, 1866, 1867 and 1869 droughts seriously affected the general harvest."*

According to him, "The great famine of 1860, coming as it did after the resources of the poorer class had been exhausted by bad harvests in the two previous years, caused considerable loss of life in Shahabad district. The distress was felt most severely in parganas Chausa, Piru, Chainpur, Nanam and in Panwar, in which rice cultivation predominates."†

He mentioned that relief measures were supplemented by private liberality. But the number of deaths from starvation, as reported by the police, came to 3,161.

W. W. Hunter observes—"The famine of 1869 following as it did a succession of bad years, also caused much distress in Shahabad district and the scarcity was aggravated by the badness of the roads. Relief measures had to be organised, the able-bodied being employed on the roads, while the old and infirm were formed into *kangali* or beggar squads, who were paid daily in return for such light work as their infirmities enabled them to perform. The prices of food-grains varied directly with the distance of the markets from the railways."‡

* A Statistical Account of Bengal, Vol. XII, Gaya-Shahabad (1877), by W. W. Hunter, p. 251.

† *Ibid.*

‡ W. W. Hunter's *A Statistical Account of Bengal*, Vol. XII, page 253.

Regarding the famine of 1873-74, we find—

The following account of the scarcity of 1873-74 is taken from report by Mr H Alexander, the Collector of Shahabad District —

> "The spring (*rabi*) crop of 1873 had been good, and all was going well with the *bhadai* till August of that year, when, in consequence of very heavy floods, and the subsequent cessation of rain, the paddy crop throughout the district entirely failed, more than three-fourths of the expected outturn was destroyed, and much of what was saved was due to the Sone water, which was turned into the unfinished canals at the end of 1873, and freely distributed. In this way some paddy was saved, and an excellent spring harvest was ensured wherever the water had penetrated..... ..
>
> "For the purposes of charitable relief, a sum of £ 2,529, 7*s.* 6*d*, subscribed in the district, was supplemented by a Government contribution of £ 900. The recipients of relief were employed in doing light work, such as rope-making, spinning, weaving The total number of persons thus relieved was 1,18,776, and total amount expended on this account was £ 2,995 4*s* ..."*

Famine of 1896-97

Regarding the famine of 1896-97 the last *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* mentioned that the prices in this district as elsewhere, ruled very high but considerable stocks were held by the cultivators, and eventually no part was really distressed except the Bhabua subdivision and the southern portion of the Sasaram subdivision, an area comprising 1,632 square miles and containing a population of 382,000 souls In the affected area the harvest of 1895-96 had been poor and in 1896 the winter rice crop on which the cultivators mainly depend had an outturn of only ten annas This was succeeded by an equally poor *rabi* crop, as there was almost an entire absence of rainfall from October 1895 to June, 1896, the fall being only 0 26 inch; and the people could only hope to recover if the monsoon was up to its usual strength

The last District Gazetteer (1924) mentioned that the total cost of famine operations was Rs. 3,36,000 of which Rs 30,000 was met from the district funds, and besides this the sum of Rs. 25,000 contributed by the Bengal Provincial Committee of the India Famine Relief Fund, was spent in relieving the distressed *Pardanashin* ladies. No deaths occurred from starvation, but owing to the ravages of cholera and small pox and the greater prevalence of fever in the autumn of 1897, the mortality in the distressed area was nearly 3½ per mille greater than in the whole district.†

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* W. W. Hunter *A Statistical Account of Bengal*, pages 253-254.

† Summarised from the *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), pages 91—94.

Scarcity from 1900 *to* 1923.

The history of Shahabad in the twentieth century has hitherto happily been free from any such major disasters. The failure of *Hathia* rains in 1908 seriously affected the winter rice crop in those portions of the district which were not irrigated from the Sone canals, and the early drying of the ground also unfavourably affected the *rabi* cultivation; but there was only local scarcity which was relieved by the grant of *taccavi* loans The unirrigated tracts again suffered in 1914 from the absence of rain from September to the end of the year.

In 1918 there was an early cessation of the monsoon rains, which again affected the vulnerable areas, causing a partial failure of the winter rice crop in the Bhabua subdivision The *rabi* crops were affected by the drought in the beginning of the season but the mischief was largely repaired by rain in January of 1919. There was serious scarcity in Bhabua. The District Board spent over thirty two thousand rupees on relief works; but the scarcity was not so serious as to be taken as a famine

Water Scarcities

Hailstorms and frost had caused heavy damages to the *rabi* crops in the Bhabua subdivision in the years 1932-33 and 1933-34 In 1934-35 also hailstorms had damaged the *bhadai* crops of Bhabua subdivision to a considerable extent

For three years continuously, i e, 1949-50, 1950-51, 1951-52 there was a failure of rainfall causing failure of crops This failure of rainfall caused serious scarcity in some parts of the Bhabua subdivision. In 1950-51 Durgauti, Ramgarh, Adhaura and the eastern portion of Bhabua thanas were badly affected The situation became worse during 1951 and 1952 especially in Chand, Adhaura, Chainpur and the eastern portion of the Bhabua thanas.

The scarcity was mitigated to some extent by the opening of Fair Price Shops in the mofassil areas and a number of minor irrigation works were taken up which provided work to the unemployed on emoluments The middle class people were also driven to a state of intense distress They were given small contracts to execute some irrigation works and other relief works. Light manual labour in the form of *khadi* spinning and weaving was made available at few centres.

In 1951-52 the entire *kharif* and *rabi* crops were lost. The affected area was large and included some portion of the Sadar and Buxar subdivisions although the major portion of the Sasaram subdivision and nearly the whole of the Bhabua subdivision were seriously affected.

In 1957-58 there was scarcity due to loss of the *Aghani* paddy and *rabi* crops due to the failure of *Hathia* rains and drought in the major portion of the Sasaram subdivision. Relief measures were taken.

CHAPTER V.

INDUSTRIES.

OLD TIME INDUSTRIES.

In the last *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* published in 1924, the following paragraphs mention the old time industries in the district.—

"As in other districts of Bihar, a large majority of the people are engaged in agricultural pursuits, no less than seventy-five per cent of the population deriving their livelihood from agriculture or pasture. Half of these are classed as actual workers (as distinct from dependent members of the households concerned), and these actual workers include 9,200 rent-receivers, 6,88,900 cultivators and 2,00,000 field labourers. Eleven per cent of the population are supported by industries, a smaller proportion than would have been inferred from the figures of the census of 1901. The difference is to be attributed, not to any recent decline in industrial activity, but to more careful classification. Enumerators were formerly apt to enter members of castes such as Barhi or Teli as following the industry appropriate to their caste, though they might really be cultivators.

"As is only natural in a district where the great majority of the people are engaged in agricultural and pastoral pursuits and where the urban population is small, the bulk of the industrial community are employed in supplying the simple needs of a rural people Thus industries in connection with dress support 48,900 persons, of whom 13,000 are supported by the manufacture of boots and shoes. Again, working in precious metals supports 13,200 persons; but all these industries merely supply local needs Manufactures in the more common sense of the word are few in number and of little significance The Bihia sugar mills have been exported all over the province, and in the lime industry in the south of the district a raw material is prepared for export on a large scale, otherwise scarcely any of the industries produce anything for export, and those few which do are on a small scale.

"The manufacture of *gur* and molasses is carried out on a considerable scale by the cultivators who grow sugarcane, but this can hardly be reckoned as an industry

apart from agriculture The only large refining factory is the turbine mill at Nasriganj

"Paper was at one time made in large quantities at Hariharganj, and in 1872 there were twenty-one manufacturers who produced 1,293 reams of ten different qualities. The industry is now almost extinct, it has been unable to compete with the machine-made paper of Serampore, and the paper-makers have mostly betaken themselves to agricultural pursuits The paper manufactured is called *basaha,* and is exported to Benares, where it is used by bankers who find it of superior durability

"Weaving was formerly a large and prosperous industry, and Buchanan estimated that there were over seven thousand houses of weavers working in cotton with 7,950 looms As in other parts of the province, the hand-made article has been driven out of the market by machine made piece-goods, and the weavers have forsaken their hereditary calling for more profitable occupations The weaving of coarse cotton cloth is, however, still carried on to a certain extent, as some people prefer it to machine-made stuff, as being more durable and warmer in the cold season At the last census thirteen thousand cotton weavers were enumerated. Country blankets are woven by the shepherd caste, those made in Bhabhua being of good texture; and carpets of cotton and wool are manufactured in the Sasaram and Bhabhua subdivisions At Sasaram they command a fair sale, but the industry is languishing owing to the importation of carpets from Mirzapur

"The manufacture of lacquered pottery is a special industry at Sasaram This pottery consists of ordinary earthen pots and vases painted over with lac The designs and colouring display considerable taste, and though the industry is not extensive, the small cost of production and the high prices obtained leave a good margin of profit.

"The mineral resources of the district have hitherto been little exploited, except for the recent development of lime manufacture in the Son valley below the Rohtas plateau. *Kankar* is found in almost all parts of the plains, particularly in the beds of rivers and along the banks of the Son; it is used for metalling roads, and is also burnt in order to obtain lime The sandstone quarried from the Kaimur hills is extensively used for

building purposes, for which it is admirably adapted. It is very durable, and even now the blocks which compose the great structures built by Sher Shah and his family show little signs of decay, while the inscriptions at Rohtasgarh are still as clear cut as if they had only recently been chiselled. On the construction of the Son Canals, when a demand for building blocks was created, the Irrigation Department succeeded in obtaining all the materials they required from the Dhaudhanr hill on the Sasaram-Tilothu road, and the East Indian Railway Company* used large quantities of stone extracted from the hills at Karaundia for the bridges and station buildings on the Mughalsarai Gaya section, as well as for metalling the line. Besides this, small slabs are quarried near Sasaram for domestic purposes, being used for hand-mills and curry-stones. A small quantity of alum used to be manufactured about half a century ago in the area north of Rohtasgarh to the west of the Son, from slates belonging to the Kaimur group of the Vindhyan series, copperas or iron sulphate is also obtained in the same region.

'Limestone is found at the bottom of the precipices which surround the tableland and its ridges, in the deep glens behind Shergarh, and in the bed of the Karamnasa, large quantities are extracted and, when burnt, yield a good lime. The lime-burning industry was formerly in the hands of small local men, but towards the end of the nineteenth century, large firms, European and Indian, began to work the quarries in the Son valley on a considerable scale. The development of the industry was encouraged by Government, by the offer of special facilities to several companies to start limestone quarries in the Banskatti Mahal at low rates of royalty, so that, in spite of the handicap imposed by the long road journey to the railway at Dehri, the Son valley lime could compete on practically equal terms with the products of the Katni quarries. The pioneers of the industry on a large scale were Messrs Octavius Steel and Company with their factory at Banjari, but early in the present century other companies were working in the valley, the Rohtas Lime Company and Messrs Mukherji and Company of Calcutta. The trains of the Dehri Rohtas Railway, covered from end to end with lime dust, indicate to the traveller what is the main use of that

* Now Eastern Railway.

line, which has brought about a great development of this industry. In the year ending March the 31st, 1923, the export of lime from Dehri-on-Sone was 35,500 tons, and of limestone 1,19,000 tons.

"There are four factories, officially described as such, in Shahabad district. These are—

(1) The Engineering workshop of the Public Works Department at Dehri.

(2) The works of the Buxar Central Jail.

(3) The Bihar Oil Mill at Dehri.

(4) The turbine oil, sugar and flour mills at Nasriganj.

"The engineering workshop at Dehri, fitted with modern appliances, turns out all the wood and iron work for the anicut, locks and canals, and is prepared to undertake necessary ship building for the canals, from a steam or motor launch to a jolly boat, adapted for sailing, rowing or towing. The Buxar Central Jail is a great manufacturing concern, where the chief industry carried on is the manufacture of tents; besides this, the prisoners are employed in weaving cloth and in making uniforms and clothing for the Police and Jail Departments."*

This picture of the old time industries has now undergone many changes. Although agriculture continues to be the main occupation of the people a number of large scale industries has come up and there is particular industrialisation in Dalmianagar area. There have been certain shifts and the Bihea Sugar Mills have ceased to function long before. The incidence of weaving has definitely declined and Nasriganj and other places no longer produce that quantity of blankets or carpets of cotton and wool. The lacquered pottery of Sasaram has also had a decline. The mineral resources are being more exploited. The tiny Dehri-Rohtas Light Railway is now a very important link and is bound to play a much more important role in the near future.

With the establishment of the Rohtas Industries in 1933, the wages of the labourers went up. As the industrial township grew, the traditional artisans left their cottage industries for better emoluments in medium and heavy industries. Apart from the direct employment in heavy industries, a few other openings, such as hotels, shops, *biri*-making, ice-cream, transport, building construction, road construction etc. gained importance. A number of rice mills came up in Nokha, Sasaram and Buxar areas which affected adversely the hand-pounding rice industries.

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* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* by J. F. W. James (1924), pages 108—111.

Gur used to be manufactured by crushing the cane just like oil-seeds, in a stone made *ghani* which was replaced by bullock-operated steel crushers. There were two sugar mills at Buxar and Bikramganj, but with the starting of a big sugar mill at Dehri by Rohtas industries in 1933 in Shahabad district and in Bihta in Patna district most of the sugarcane is now drawn by them. The sugar mills at Buxar and Bikramganj could not stand the competition with the bigger units and were closed

With the development in communication, some new industries like making of stone-chips for road and quarrying of lime for building construction developed fast particularly in Dehri and Rohtas areas Limestone quarrying for the Cement Factory at Dalmianagar received a great fillip.

It may be mentioned that the main agricultural produces of the district are rice. wheat, pulses, maize, *bajra,* gram, oil-seeds and sugarcane Sugarcane is extensively grown and the district has now got a flourishing sugar industry since the last three decades. There is a large number of oil, flour and pulse mills in the district and two of them, one at Mohania and the other at Kudra in Bhabua subdivision are first class mills where pulse, rice and oil-seeds are pressed According to 1951 census report 20,627 persons or 2 46 per cent of the total number of economically active persons in the district were employed on the various manufactures and industries * There were in all 189 registered factories employing 7,900 persons These registered factories consisted of rice, flour, oil and *dal* mills, sugar mills, paper and paper-pulp manufacture, cement manufacture, general engineering, manufacture of chemical, etc Thus the majority of the persons earning their livelihood through manufactures and industries were employed on small and cottage industries Due to industrialisation and development in communication there has been an increase in the number of the factories and according to the figures supplied by the District Industries Office, Shahabad, there are in all 539 registered factories employing 24,421 persons in the district

The following table supplied by District Industries Office, Shahabad will indicate the type and number of industries in December 1963 –

Description of Industry			Number
(1) Rice, flour and oil mills	.	.	371
(2) Cold Storage and Ice factory	..	..	12
(3) Saw mills	.	..	50
(4) General Engineering	..	..	20
(5) Foundry	..	..	5

* *District Census Handbook,* 1951, page viii

Description of Industry.	Number
(6) Utensils making	6
(7) Wire drawing	1
(8) Powerloom scheme .. .	1
(9) Chemical Industries	3
(10) Re-rolling mills	2
(11) Cement Industry	2
(12) Lantern and Nail Industry	1
(13) Sugar mills	1
(14) Tailoring	4
(15) Asbestos	1
(16) Confectionary	3
(17) Soap making	15
(18) Printing	10
(19) Unclassified Industries .. .	4
(20) Electricity, generation	2

Sources of Power

The district has no provision for the produce of Hydro-Electric Power. There is no Thermal Station. The district is receiving power from the Damodar Valley Corporation. The Bihar State Electricity Board is purchasing power from the Damodar Valley Corporation. The following statement supplied by the State Electricity Board Department, Arrah, will show the units purchased and sold for the period of 1961-62, 1962-63 and 1963-64.—

TABLE I.

Month.		Units purchased.	Units sold.
April, 1961	.	9,02,283	8,12,912
May, 1961	.	10,39,050	10,91,173
June, 1961	.	9,43,808	9,42,413
July, 1961	..	11,39,390	8,20,353
August, 1961	..	13,08,760	9,99,732
September, 1961	.	13,89,804	9,41,705
October, 1961	..	11,51,005	17,51,247
November, 1961	..	9,19,454	8,12,246
December, 1961	..	9,18,696	8,49,625
January, 1962	.	10,39,321	8,06,202
February, 1962	.	9,79,057	7,52,271
March, 1962	..	11,52,857	7,73,234

Month.	Units purchased	Units sold
April, 1962 .	12,02,870	9,89,266
May, 1962 .	12,77,911	9,15,321
June, 1962	10,85,668	9,47,865
July, 1962	13,13,736	10,29,148
August, 1962 .	14,93,300	10,42,915
September, 1962 .	12,64,316	9,99,701
October, 1962 .	19,16,950	14,76,690
November, 1962 ..	14,48,900	12,47,694
December 1962 .	12,97,558	9,51,619
January, 1963	14,70,774	10 47,222
February, 1963	13,58 152	10,62,681
March, 1963	14 13,265	9,45,519
April 1963 .	14,21,689	10,71 294
May, 1963 .	17,01,191	11,63,041
June, 1963	15,36,197	10 01,377
July, 1963	16,81,052	10,03,357
August 1963	18,59,758	12,17,250
September, 1963	17,34,172	13 36,881
October, 1963	20,29,763	13,34,782
November 1963 .	13 15,058	12,83 344
December, 1963	11,49,501	10,00,075

The supply of electricity may broadly be categorised into four classes, namely, domestic, commercial, industrial and others

The valuation against the total units sold from April 1961 to December, 1963 is given below --

Month.	Amount (in rupees)
April 1961	1 81,729 63
May, 1961 . .	1 97,105 49
June, 1961 ..	2,08,481 84
July, 1961 .	1,92,150 64
August, 1961 .. .	1,73,132 25
September, 1961 . ..	2,06,211 71
October, 1961 .. .	1 98,7,7 65
November, 1961 . ..	3,18,772 83
December, 1961	1,86,138 79
January, 1962	1.86,593 66
February, 1962	1,72,804.57

Month	Amount (in rupees).
March, 1962	1,78,289.83
April, 1962	1,69,725.39
May, 1962	2,20,551.99
June, 1962	1,99,386 67
July, 1962	2,01,251.04
August, 1962	2,14,328 85
September, 1962	2,11,928.10
October, 1962	3,01,043.65
November, 1962	2,88 946.55
December, 1962	2,58,640.28
January, 1963	2,35,225 44
February, 1963	2,18,926.10
March, 1963	2,20.745 58
April, 1963	2,01,188.16
May, 1963	2,19,781 98
June, 1963	2,32,582 50
July, 1963	2,30,102.87
August, 1963	2,23,117 62
September, 1963	2,65,831 36
October 1963	2,89,770 08
November, 1963	2,73,355 38
December, 1963	2,68,091 07

The table below supplied by the State Electricity Board, Arrah, will give the figures of consumers in December, 1963 —

	Rural	Urban.
(1) Domestic	6,781	10,866
(2) Commercial	2,643	5.312
(3) Industrial	567	287
(4) Public lighting	417	2,817
(5) Others	267	687

It may be noted that prior to 1957, the private electric supply companies at Arrah and Dehri used to supply power to the consumers in the district In 1957, these private companies were taken over by State Government and since then the State Electricity Board at Arrah and Dehri are supplying power obtained from the Damodar Valley Corporation The incidence of urbanisation is found to have gone up and there is no doubt that in another ten years the requirements for electricity both for domestic and industrial purposes will go up much higher

Efforts have been made to increase the supply of electricity within the State. Progress in Bihar in the spread of electrification has been striking although it falls far short of the requirement for an all-round development of the State.

There are six subdivisions of the Electricity Department at Arrah I and Arrah II, Buxar, Dehri, Bhabua and Sasaram Regarding the present low incidence of consumption of electricity it may be mentioned that the high rate of electricity is complained to have resulted in less consumption of energy for domestic and industrial purposes

LARGE-SCALE INDUSTRIES (DALMIA GROUP OF INDUSTRIES)

(1) *Sugar Factory.*—The levy of protective duty on sugar in 1933 served as an incentive to the growth of the sugar industry in India Many sugar factories were set up in Bihar. A sugar factory was established at Bihta in Patna district As Shahabad grows a lot of sugarcane it was considered proper to locate a sugar mill in this district.

With this view, on March 18, 1933, a company was registered under the style of Rohtas Sugar, Limited with an authorised capital of Rs. 30 lakhs and issued capital of Rs. 16 12 lakhs On April 22, 1933, the company commenced its business

The site near the railway station of Dehri on-Sone was selected and considered as an ideal one for the location of the sugar factory as it was served not only by the Grand Chord Section of the Eastern Railway, the Grand Trunk Road and the Sone river, but also by the Dehri-Rohtas Light Railway, the Sone Canals and a network of roads connecting the remotest corner of the country

On May 15, 1933, the foundation-stone of the sugar factory was laid by Sir Sultan Ahmad. The erection work went apace and was completed in about seven months time.

The first sugar plant with a crushing capacity of 1,000 tons of sugarcane per day was supplied from Glassgow With the addition of new machines the capacity of the sugar factory was quickly raised from 1,000 tons per day to 1,500 tons per day in 1935 and to 1,800 tons per day in 1936-37. Rohtas sugar which is classed as of very good quality both for its colour and crystals, is manufactured by double carbonisation and sulphuration process.

Sugarcane supplies were supplemented to the factory by opening a new 16-mile Nasriganj-Dalmianagar Railway in 1957-58. During the same year the 25-mile Dehri-Rohtas Light Railway was extended 18 miles further south from Rohtas to Pipardih where the company's new limestone quarries were located The extension brings in more sugarcane to the factory.

The table below supplied by the Rohtas Industries will show the details of annual production of sugar in every ten years to 1962-63:—

Years	Production (in maunds)
1933-34	1,23,760
1943-44	3,30,750
1953-54	2,82,891
1961-62	3,04,843
1962-63	3,21,312

The total installed capacity during 1962-63 was 4,80,000 maunds.

(2) *Paper Factory*.—In July-August, 1938, foundation was laid of the paper factory with one machine with a capacity of 6,000 tons per year.

On April 4, 1939, Dr. Rajendra Prasad had inaugurated machine no. I of the paper factory.

In 1953 two more machines were added—one with an installed capacity of 15 tons and the other with 3 tons per day. During the First Five-Year Plan period (1951—56) the monthly production capacity of 1,500 tons a day of paper and paper boards was doubled to 3,000 tons. This plant along with the two other paper machines from Japan installed in 1956 have enabled the company to manufacture some fine varieties of light weight papers.

A steady programme of expansion of the paper factory was implemented during the First and the Second Plans. This raised the monthly capacity from 1,500 tons to 3,000 tons at the end of the First Five-Year Plan and to 5,000 tons at the end of the Second Plan.

Machine no. I after modernisation and extensions carried on in it, has a production capacity of 80 tons per day or about 30,000 tons per annum. Duplex boards to meet the country's needs in respect of packing purposes, craft and other light weight papers and different types of poster papers of light weight and high class bank, bound and ledger papers are now produced.

Three machines with up-to-date plants were installed and commissioned for the manufacture of special varieties of boards. Tag board required for machine accounting was developed and produced for the first time here in 1958. Thus with the completion of the expansion programme, the production capacity has come to 5,000 tons per month. This factory is one of the largest paper producing centres in the country, and has also the distinction of being the

maker of a very large variety of papers and boards from the thinnest to the thickest category. It represents about 20 per cent of the total production of papers and boards in India

The existing line of manufacture of the paper factory include Duplex, Triplex and Ticket boards, Art Finished Art board, Enamel board and playing card boards, Tissue papers Match paper, poster paper, etc

The following chart gives an idea of the raw materials and the places from where they are brought —

Serial no.	Raw materials	Places from where brought
1	Foreign Pulp	Imported
2	Bamboo	Bihar
3	Spruce Wood	Kashmir and Uttar Pradesh.
4	Semal Wood	Bihar
5	Limestone Wood	Bihar.
6	Sodium Sulphate	Rajasthan
7	Caustic Soda	Imported.
8	Felt Wires and other spare parts	Imported
9	Waste paper	Mostly from outside Bihar
10	China-clay	Bihar
11	Rosin	Uttar Pradesh
12	Dye	Imported
13	Hessian cloth	West Bengal
14	Base paper	Saurastra
15	Zinc Chloride	Saurastra

The table below gives the details of production:—

Years	Production (in tons)
1943-44	9,660
1953-54	16,109
1961-62	46,188
1962-63	48,542

The total installed capacity is 58,000 tons during 1962-63.

Cement Factory.

Dalmianagar was also considered an ideal site for the location of cement industries due to the availability of the chief raw material in abundance in its vicinity For the cement industry very good deposits of limestone are available in abundance in the vicinity and within the district

To give the new ventures a practical shape, on September 30, 1936, the Rohtas Sugar, Limited, was converted into the Rohtas Industries, Limited and its authorised capital was raised to Rs. 1 crore and issued capital to Rs. 50 lakhs The authorised capital has since been progressively raised to Rs 5 crores in 1944 and Rs. 15 crores in 1960 and the issued capital to Rs. 1.70 crores in 1944, Rs. 2 20 crores in 1946, Rs 3 54 crores in 1955, Rs. 3 56 crores in 1956 and Rs. 6 05 crores in 1960

The machinery for the cement factory came from Denmark

Early in 1937, Sir Maurice Hallet, the Governor of Bihar, laid the foundation-stone of the Cement Factory with a plant of 500 tons daily capacity The erection was completed in 1938

On March 1938, the plant was inaugurated by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose It was at the moment the biggest single unit plant in India Another plant of the same capacity was installed in 1950. This raised the capacity of the factory to 110 tons per day This plant was also supplied by the same firm

A third plant with a capacity of 800 tons per day, was installed in 1956 under the auspices of Ashoke Cement, Limited

The Ashoke plant has its kiln 330 feet in length, 13′–6″ in diameter and 755 tons in weight as against the two Rohtas kilns of 475′ and 500′ in length, 12′ each in diameter and 20,000 tons each in weight.

The raw materials of limestone, laterite and coal come from Bihar while gypsum comes from Rajasthan The supply of gunny bags is from West Bengal.

The statement of annual production is as follows:—

Years	Annual Production (in tons)
1943-44	1,05,573
1953-54	3,55,238
1961-62	2,67,885
1962-63	3,02,142

The total installed capacity during 1962-63 was 6 25,000 tons

Side line—Coated Boards

This factory was the first to undertake manufacture of coated boards in this country in 1950 So far the country entirely depended on foreign imports for these boards.

Originally there were only two machines to produce coated boards including Art, Chromo and Playing Card boards for fine printing. These plants have now been modernised and a new plant of the latest design installed with all the modern and up-to-date glazing equipments.

The Rohtas Industries has now the capacity to produce per annum 12 thousand tons of coated boards and papers in all grades required by the Indian market.

BAGASSE PULP.

Of pulp manufacture, special mention is to be made of pulp made from 'bagasse', a waste product of the sugar industry. Pioneer research work was done at this centre in regard to the utilisation of bagasse, the waste of sugarcane as a raw material for the manufacture of paper. A special plant was put up for this purpose.

The plant produces 20 tons of bleached pulp from bagasse per day There is a plan for its expansion with a view to utilize in larger quantities the sugarcane waste for making paper and board.

Experiments at this centre opened up a new avenue for the use of bagasse as an important raw material for the manufacture of paper and board. The Government of India have since granted licences liberally for the establishment of other plants to produce plup and paper from bagasse

The Sahu Jains (Managing Agents of R.I., Ltd.) have entered into technical collaboration with Messrs. Crown Zallerbach Corporation, San Francisco, one of the largest paper makers in the U.S.A., for using their patented bagasse pulp process in India for making newsprint This collaboration extends also to the manufacture of papers and boards in general.

BAMBOO PULP.

Of the raw materials used for pulp manufacture, bamboos are easily most in use The bamboo pulp plant has up-to-date equipments for bamboo chipping. Its production capacity is 100 tons of pulp per day A multi-stage bleaching plant has been installed to help manufacture bamboo pulp in a quality that gives the paper a whiteness of lasting character.

MECHANICAL PULP

The Rohtas Industries manufactures pulp from various types of Indian timber by mechanical process The making of 'mechanical wood pulp' from Indian timbers, was developed in 1944. A modern wood grinding plant with a capacity of 6,000 tons per annum was installed initially for this purpose, Another wood grinding plant was added during the period of expansion to improve the quality and increase the quantity of 'mechanical wood pulp'.

CHEMICAL FACTORY.

The paper and cement factories were soon followed by the establishment of the chemical factory at Dalmianagar This started working in 1939

Chemicals are produced primarily to meet the needs of the paper factory Production of caustic soda, bleach liquor and bleaching powder started with the inception of the factory and of hydrochloric acid and liquid chlorine in 1945 and 1950 respectively.

The factory in the beginning produced 5 5 tons of caustic soda, 5 tons of liquid chlorine, 3 tons of bleach liquor and 1 ton of hydrochloric acid per day

With the strengthening of the plan and acquisition of modern equipments particularly the latest type of mercury cells with D C. rectifier equipment in 1958 59, the production capacity increased to 18 tons of caustic soda and 15 tons of chlorine per day The caustic soda now produced is suitable for the rayon industry

The major portion of both caustic soda and chlorine produced are consumed in digesting and bleaching pulp in the paper factory. Part of hydrochloric acid is used to purify brine in the chemical factory and part sold out in the market Liquid chlorine is sold out entirely to the other paper factories in the country Hydrogen generated at the cathode in the process of electrolysis of the brine in the cell-house is used to produce hydrochloric acid, being chemically reacted with chlorine released in the chemical process in the cell-house Hydrogen is further and more profitably used to hydrogenate the oils in the *vanaspati* factory

SULPHURIC ACID PLANT.

Production of sulphuric acid started at this centre in 1942. Sulphuric acid is also largely consumed in the paper factory besides the chemical factory and the Central Workshop

Initially a chamber process sulphuric acid plant was erected in 1941-42 with a rated capacity of 2 tons per day, which in due course was increased to 4 tons per day.

Chamber sulphuric acid and ferric alum solution used to be produced till 1943 Thereafter production began of marketable sulphuric acid and ferric alum Production of Potash Alum and Ammon started in 1943 and 1945 respectively

In 1950 the chamber process was changed over to contact process The rated capacity of the plant was raised to 10 tons of sulphuric acid, 15 tons of ferric alum and 1 ton of ammon alum per day

It may be noted that sulphur, bauxite and ammonium sulphate are the raw materials used.

After meeting local needs, sulphuric acid is also supplied to outside consumers. Ferric alum, chemically known as aluminium sulphate, is used in the Beater House of the paper factory for 'sizing' paper and boards Part of this chemical is also supplied to the other paper factories and to waterworks establishments all over the country, to be used as 'water purifier' Ammon alum is used for medicinal purposes and for dyeing and printing cloths.

Asbestos Cement Factory

An Asbestos Cement Factory was first established in 1943-44 with a plant fabricated in the local workshop Production started in September, 1946. But the factory had to be closed down only after a year for want of suitable asbestos fibre In 1951 the factory was restarted with a new plant imported from the United Kingdom.

The plant has a rated capacity of 50 tons of asbestos sheets including 5 tons of accessories per day or 18 thousand tons of asbestos cement products per annum

A distinct advantage to the Rohtas Factory is that its chief raw material cement is available locally from the cement factory, although asbestos fibre, another important raw material, is imported from outside, as suitable fibre required for the manufacture of asbestos sheets is not available in the country. But to overcome this permanently, long term contracts have been signed with asbestos mines abroad for regular supply of requisite quality of asbestos fibre

Vanaspati Factory

The *Vanaspati* factory for producing dehydrogenated oil was started in 1944

The plant was initially designed to produce 40 tons of *vanaspati* cooking medium per day. But the production capacity has since been augmented to 60 tons of *vanaspati* per day.

Hanuman Vanaspati of this factory is packed in 36 lbs and 10 lbs. containers

Vulcanised Fibre Plant

The location here of the Vulcanised Fibre Plant in 1954 opened up altogether a new line of manufacture.

Experiments had been carried on in the paper factory since 1950 and heavy expenditure incurred in preliminary research and experiments to master the manufacturing process and put the plant into successful operation Manufacture of products on commercial basis commenced in 1954.

The plant has a rated capacity of 125 tons of vulcanised fibre products per month. But the monthly production has so far varied from 30 to 50 tons. Lack of the chief raw material called Base Paper which is imported, has been the greatest handicap in stepping up production. This handicap may be overcome when the paper factory executes its plan to produce Base Paper on one of its new machines.

Vulcanised fibre sheets in different ranges of thickness are claimed to have been produced for the first time in India in this factory, without any foreign technical know-how or collaboration.

The factory has now embarked upon manufacture of a wide variety of standard and special grades in colour in the form of sheets, strips and tubes under a special process, in collaboration with a Japanese firm

Rohtas vulcanised fibre has innumerable uses. Among its applications may be included such diversified products as athletic safety guards of ears, textile bobbin heads, card and silver cans, electrical components, rail joint insulations and packing Thick sheets are used for making suit-cases.

Central or Mechanical Workshop

The Central Workshop which has all the modern equipments, generally caters to the needs of the various factories at this centre. During the war years it manufactured various equipments, machinery and spares, requiring a high degree of precision.

The workshop has a Grey Cast Iron Foundry, Cast Steel Foundry, Mechanical shop and a Fabricating shop

During the past few years the worshop fabricated the *Vanaspati* Plant, 10 per cent of the Ashoke Cement Plant and several important components for the paper mill Material parts for additional wide-looms for Sahu Jain Jute Mills were also made here.

Among the important items made in the workshop for the pulp and paper mills are Bamboo chippers, Disintegrators, Blow Tanks, Coarse Screens, Vortraps, Pulp thickners, Rotary Flow screens, Pulp Diffusers, Bleaching Hollanders, Evaporator Body, Lime Kiln and Gas Producer and Caustricising Plant (except moving parts), and a Heat Recovery Plant.

Besides, most of the material handling equipment were also fabricated, such as, conveyors, elevators, open type impeller pumps for handling 100 tons of pulp per day, storage tanks for black, green and white liquor, centrifugal fans of 1,500 cbm capacity and cyclones for bamboo chips.

The Electric Arc Steel Furnace with 3 tons|hr capacity has been installed under Ashoke Cement, Limited This caters to the needs of special steel castings, required for the cement and other factories.

The table below supplied by Rohtas Industries Office, Dalmianagar will give the details of production in various industries.—

Serial no.	Name of the product.	1943-44	1953-54	1961-62.	1962-63.	Installed capacity in 1962-63
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Vanaspati	60 tons	688 tons	9,795 tons	10,004 tons	14,500 tons
2	Soap	Nil	Nil	351 "	575 "	1,800 "
3	Bamboo pulp	4,765 tons	6,790 tons	26,608 "	27,114 "	36,000 "
4	Wood pulp	Nil	2,778 "	3,541 "	3,695 "	6,000 "
5	Bagasse pulp		2,847 "	4,291 "	4,418 "	6,000 "
6	Coating Plant	..	1,005 "	5,320 "	6,419 "	12,000 "
7	Vulcanised fibre		43 "	343 "	492 "	1,500 "
8	Sulphuric Acid	1,331 "	2,705 "	2,992 "	3,104 "	3,600 "
9	Asbestos cement	..	4,334 "	17,770 "	17,802 "	18,000 "
10	Power	32 million units	83 million units.	49 million units.	59 million units.	100 million units.
11	Steel castings	..	..	..	2,200 tons	5,000 tons.

KALYANPUR LIME AND CEMENT WORKS LIMITED, BANJARI.

Banjari has been the site of Lime Production since 1906 The quarries of limestone at Banjari and Lebura were worked by John White Abdul Sattar and later by John White Abdul Sattar and M/s. Planters Stores Agency during the period 1906 to 1918 The works were then known as Kalyanpur Lime Works In 1918 Messrs. Martin and Co (now M/s. Martin Burn, Ltd) bought out the said two firms and in 1920 they formed a Company known as Kalyanpur Lime Works, Limited which worked the quarries and produced Hydraulic Lime till 1930 when M/s. Martin and Company put the Company into voluntary liquidation and sold it to Messrs. M N. Banerjee and Company In 1939 M/s M N Banerjee and Company promoted the Company named Kalyanpur Lime and Cement Works, Limited at 2/3, Clive Row, Calcutta, who have been producing a Portland Cement Manufacturing Plant of 120 tons per day in 1937 but the outbreak of hostilities in September, 1939 prevented some parts of the machinery reaching India.

The control of this Company passed to Shri C. P Sinha in 1946 and the Cement Plant order in 1937 from Germany went into operation in the year 1946.

The Company has been granted a licence under the Industries Development and Regulations Act, 1947, and had put in a further extension in 1962.

The factory has not been able to achieve optimum production due to transport problems which are caused by the fact that Banjari is served by a small Light Railway which has limited carrying capacity Furthermore this Light Railway is heavily strained for the carriage of goods for Dalmianagar factory and as such finds it difficult to cope with the increasing demands of the Banjari factory. Lack of metalled roads for a portion of three miles from the factory to Amjhore junction made it difficult for the Company to transport its goods by road.

The main raw materials for this factory is available in the Kaimur hills—

Raw materials used.		Source of raw materials.
1. Lime	..	Bihar
2. Laterite	..	Bihar
3. Gypsum	..	Rajasthan
4 Coal	..	Bihar
5. Gunny Bags	..	West Bengal.

Annual Production.

Years.				Production in tons.
1955-56	..	..	..	46,603
1956-57	..	..	..	48,109
1957-58	..	..	..	49,301
1958-59	..	..	..	50,108
1959-60	.	..	..	51,302
1960-61	..	..		52,001
1961-62	..	..	..	53,109
1962-63		.		54,302*

SMALL-SCALE AND COTTAGE INDUSTRIES.

There are different types of Small-Scale and Cottage Industries in the district, the details of which have been given below:—

(1) *Soap Industry.*—In 1964 there are about fifteen soap manufacturing units concentrated in Arrah, Buxar, Sasaram and Dalmianagar. None of them is a large concern and on the average about 7 or 8 persons are engaged in each of the units. The average output varies per year. One factory in Arrah is reported to be producing 90 tons of soap per year while another at Sasaram has an output of only one ton per year. These units produce only washing soaps. All the ingredients, namely, oil, caustic soda, sodium silicate, chemicals, etc have to be imported. There is no difficulty in marketing the soap within the district.

(2) *Timber and Furniture Works.*—The large-scale industries require a good quantity of wood In 1964 there are about 23 small-scale timber works in the district located at Arrah, Buxar, Bihia, Dalmianagar, Dumraon and Sasaram On the average about 6 to 12 persons are engaged in each of these units Timber of various categories and size are supplied in factories and outside also from saw mills

(3) *Leather Industry.*—There are individual leather workers distributed all over the district There is a concentration of them at certain places like Dehri, Khilafatpur and Rampur, etc At Khilafatpur village in Buxar subdivision there is a centre where about 20 pairs of shoes are turned out everyday The centre has been receiving help from the Industries Department

(4) *Tasar Industry.*—The State Government has started a *tasar* sub-station at village Sarodag in Adhaura Block. The main function is to train the *tasar*-rearers in rearing and spinning The Industries Department of State Government have taken some initiative to distribute eri-silk worms

* These figures were supplied by the Administrative Officer of the said factory.

(5) *Lime Industry*.—In Shahabad district lime industry has been started in good number and according to the figures supplied by the District Industries Officer, Shahabad, there are about 20 lime industry units in the district and all of them are located in Dalmianagar areas Because of availability of limestone from Kaimur Hills, many industries have been started.

The statement below supplied by the District Industries Officer, Shahabad will give the details of the lime factories in the district:—

Serial no.	Name of the industry.	No. of persons employed.	Capital investment (in rupees).
1	Hind Lime Works, Dalmianagar	10	10,000
2	Khedan Lime Works, Dalmianagar	22	16,000
3	Diadih Lime Works, Dalmianagar	20	28,000
4	Kalyanpur Lime Works, Banjari	100	35,000
5	Kalyanpur Lime Works, Dehri-on-Sone	110	50,000
6	Rohtas Lime Works, Dalmianagar	20	14,000
7	Anant Lime Works, Tilothu	7	13,000
8	Sasaram Lime Works, Dalmianagar	16	11,000
9	Dehri Lime Works, Dehri-on-Sone	10	17,000
10	Sinha Lime Works, Sasaram	30	22,000
11	Hindustan Lime Centre, Dalmianagar	5	8,000
12	Nathuni Singh and Brothers Lime Works, Dalmianagar.	9	11,000
13	Shahabad Lime Works, Dalmianagar	10	31,000
14	Bihar Lime Works, Dehri-on-Sone	10	12,000
15	Bharat Lime Works, Dehri-on-Sone	30	25,000
16	Janta Lime Works, Dalmianagar	10	11,000
17	Janta Lime Works, Takia	7	4,800
18	South Shahabad Lime Works, Nokha	6	6,000
19	Rohtas Lime and Stone Centre, Dalmianagar	6	4,000
20	Kasiawan Lime Works, Dehri-on-Sone	15	32,000
21	Kurwaha Lime Works, Dehri	10	12,000

The average daily production ranges from 40 to 80 mds.

In this district there is a large number of families whose traditional profession is utensils manufacturing industry of brass, bell-metal and German silver, etc. There are 70 families at Jagdishpur, about 20 families at Buxar, and 20 families at Sarenja who have been brought in co-operative fold.

Food Processing Industries.

Rice Mills—The district is a large rice-growing area in Bihar There are altogether 275 pure rice mills and 71 rice, oil and *dal* mills in the district. A list of important rice mills with number of workers employed and average daily crushing capacity in December, 1963 is given below:—

Serial no.	Name of mills and place	No of persons employed average per day.	Average daily crushing capacity.
			Mds.
1	Shree Laxmi Rice Mill, Sasaram	15	150
2	Shahabad Industry Private Ltd, Gajrajganj, Buxar	29	290
3	Ambika Rice Mill, Mohania	35	350
4	Shankar Rice Mill, Nokha	82	650
5	Bishwanathji Rice Mill, Buxar	91	800
6	Shri Manohar Rice Mill, Charitraban, Buxar	31	300
7	Shri Mahabirji Rice Mill, Parjela, Sasaram	60	500
8	Shri Krishnaji Rice Mill, Nokha	38	350
9	Shri Annapurna Rice Mill, Nokha	74	650
10	Shri Laxmi Narain Rice Mill, Ghusiakalan, Shahabad	47	425
11	Shri Thakurji Rice Mill, Nokha	63	550
12	Shri Laxmi Rice Mill, Nokha	87	800
13	Shri Durga Rice Mill, Chausa, Shahabad	70	650
14	Shri Janki Rice Mill, Nokha	150	1,500
15	Shri Mahadeoji Rice Mill, Nokha	70	700

Oil Mills.—There are about 25 oil mills in the district which are quite separate Besides, the oil mills are attached with either rice mills or flour mills. The average number of persons employed per day is about five. The market is local. It may be noted that the labour force required for the industry is mostly unskilled and they are recruited from the local population. The industry is of seasonal nature.

Repairing Workshops.—There are a number of repairing workshops. Some of them are the Central Workshop at Dalmianagar, Vijoy Gopal Engineering Works, Dehri-on-Sone, Oriental Lathe Works, Dehri, Jai Hind Motor Works, Arrah, Vishwakarma Engineering Works, Bihia, Shahabad Engineering Works, Arrah, Sharma Engineering Works, Raja Bazar, Bihea, Mahesh Engineering Works, Arrah, Arrah Engineering Works, Arrah, etc.

WOMEN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL, ARRAH.

The scheme was started in 1961 to impart training to the females in knitting, embroidery (hand and machine), tailoring and cutting, cane and bamboo wares, leather goods, toys and dolls making. The total number of the trainees in the centre is sixty and the course of training is for one year This is the only institution in the district for imparting training to the females in different crafts.

TRAINING-*cum*-PRODUCTION CENTRES

There are twenty-seven training-*cum*-production centres including eight for ladies in different trades, e g , tailoring and cutting, knitting and embroidery, blacksmithy and tinsmithy, carpentry, leather goods-making, tanning, cane and bamboowares, cotton-weaving, *durrie* and carpet-weaving, wool-weaving and toys-making, etc, in the different blocks of the district. These centres impart training to the artisan class of the rural areas. The trainees are given financial and technical help in order to implement the follow up programme.

INSTITUTIONAL TYPE CLUSTER CENTRE, DUMRAON.

The centre was started in 1961-62. Three crafts, viz, leather, carpentry and blacksmithy have been clustered in the centre The total number of the trainees (1964) is 36, i e, 12 in each craft During 1963-64 the production was worth Rs 10,384 in the said centre and the sale of the products was worth Rs 10,313 only

WEAVERS' TRAINING CENTRE, TILOTHU

The centre was started in 1961-62 to impart training to the professional weavers on improved type of looms and designs in cotton weaving, *durrie* weaving and dyeing The number of trainees in the centre is 36.

MODEL BLACKSMITHY WORKSHOP.

It was started in 1962 as Training-*cum*-Production Centre at Arrah In 1963, eight trainees had passed from this centre. The centre will impart training to the blacksmiths on improved type of power driven machine The building for the centre has been constructed and the installation of the machine and power connection is in process.

DUMRAON INDUSTRIES, DUMRAON

This is managed by the Dumraon Maharaja, the ex-landlord of Dumraon. There is a lantern factory under this management and is called Dumraon Lantern Factory. It started production in 1941. At present (1963) its capital is Rs. 5,96,000. It is equipped with all the necessary machineries and other implements required for the manufacture of lanterns. Its present (1963) production capacity is on the average 400 per day. The lanterns are consumed within the State and outside.

Tinsheet, the main raw material, is brought from Jamshedpur. There are a number of plants for turning in the different components Three brands of lanterns are produced and the capacity is 400 pieces daily on the average It is gathered that there was no difficulty in disposing of the produce before. Recently, however, a few such factories have been set up in other States and now there is keen competition. The peak period of the sale is from June to September every year.

There is a side line of manufacturing nails which are used for making shoes. It is understood that there is no difficulty in disposing of the produce.

The following figures supplied by the District Industries Office will indicate the production of five years from 1959-60 to 1962 63 –

Years	Number of pieces.
1959-60	1,44,802
1960-61	1,46,301
1961-62	1,48,291
1962-63	1,54,802
1963-64 (December, 1963)	1,60.207

The total number of labourers employed in the factory was 107 during 1963-64

INDUSTRIES IN CENTRAL JAIL (BUXAR)

The Buxar Central Jail since 1880 has been engaged in various types of industries manned by the convicts. The following are the main items at present (1964)·--

(1) *Tailoring.*—This is a very busy section turning out liveries of various types for different classes of Government servants of both Central and State Governments

(2) *Tent*—Manufacture of tents with the subsidiary industries like the making of *Durry*, *Newar* rope and dyeing has been a prominent feature of the jail. Previously beautiful carpets were also made

(3) *Weaving*—Bedsheets, towels, *Dhotis*, *Jhatans* and cotton cloth for prisoners clothing are made.

(4) *Spinning*—There are 50 powerlooms which are fully engaged and cotton yarn for feeding the heavy weaving industry is made Yarn is also supplied from this jail to the other jails

There are some minor sections like oil and flour mills, carpentry and smithy, etc.

The table below supplied by the Superintendent of Central Jail Buxar, will give the output in industries from 1959 to 1963:—

Sections	1959.	1960.	1961.	1962.	1963. (December).
1	2	3	4	5	6
1 Weaving (in meters).	1,31,415 10	1,43,562 87	1,63,931.21	1,26,453 84	1,51,912.41
2. Garments (in number).	1,27,419	1,34,136	1,30,035	1,34,348	1,51,241
3. Tent (in number).	584	610	504	836	942
4 Rope (in Kg)	7,542 19	8,063.88	8,282.32	9,540 80	10,319
5 Oil "	12,130 35	14,312 39	15,219	14,312	13,212
6 Spinning "	1,05,677	1,13,397	1,08,108	1,13,124	1,24,314

Kg —Kilogram

A chart of the number of prisoners employed in the factory is given below:—

Years.	Average daily labouring prisoners	Sales in (rupees)	Net profit (in rupees.)
1940	888	5,44,905	87,789
1941	905	6,60,172	60,018
1942	916	5,97,935	77,438
1943	865	9,39,582	2,44,296
1944	978	13,04,026	2,60,038
1945	908	7,67,505	1,18,051
1946	763	7,79,991	1,29,140
1947	563	6,15,174	80,905
1948	479	7,28,427	91,332
1949	536	10,26,715	3,53,095
1950	572	12,43,822	1,86,189
1951	820	10,76,430	1,63,763
1952	642	13,08,078	1,13,333
1953	621	13,01,107	76,133
1954	646	13,31,258	56,126
1955	649	12,07,512	55,756
1956	698	14,29,279	73,960
1957	646	17,30,278	1,40,898
1958	690	14 39,478	1,24,499
1959	756	19,77,060	2,29,828
1960	812	17,11,556	1,77,894
1961	804	20,19,163	1,81,796
1962	827	23,60,726	2,12,949
1963	851	25,31,216	2,69,312

As will be evident from the above figures, the sale figures of Rs. 5,44,905 in 1940 has gone up to Rs. 25,31,216 in 1963 and the State Government have already got back in full the investment made to this jail industry up to 1963 plus the labour cost for the prisoners working in the factory, the present rate being 8 annas per prisoner per day and about 4 per cent interest charges all these years.

BUILDING INDUSTRY.

The incidence of urbanisation in Shahabad district has increased and Arrah, Dehri, Sasaram, Buxar and Dumraon have expanded enormously and other townships are also developing. The more availability of cement has led to a change in the pattern of the houses. Instead of mud and brick houses more of reinforced brick and reinforced concrete houses are being built. There has been a great expansion of Government offices at the district headquarters and a number of institutions are now located in Arrah. All this has led to a sizeable population being engaged in what may be loosely described as the building industry

This building industry has spread to many of the rural areas as well. The location of the block headquarters at important villages has led to the construction of a number of *pucca* houses for Block Development Office and residential houses. The well-to-do villagers have also come to appreciate better houses to live in and houses with modern comforts are coming up in many villages.

There are no brick-kilns in Arrah town but they are at Dumraon, Dehri, Bhabua, Buxar, Sasaram, Bikramganj, Jagdishpur and other places. On a rough estimate about 1,300 persons are engaged at the brick-kilns in Shahabad district.

LABOUR AND EMPLOYERS' ORGANISATION.

Shahabad district is not yet very well industrialised. Industry is localised in one zone. The employers have not got a very effective organisation in the district The industries of the district require both skilled and unskilled labour Most of the unskilled labourers employed in different factories come from within the district itself. The supply of the skilled personnel comes from not only within the district but from outside the district also. There are labour unions in different industries. It may be mentioned that generally it is taken that the labourers are more conscious of their rights than their obligations. Some of these labour organisations make themselves occasionally felt by threatening complete or partial strikes

Following is the list of the registered labour unions as supplied by the Labour Office, Shahabad in the district till 31st December, 1963:—

Serial no.	Name of the union.	Registration number.	Date of Registration.	Affiliation with Central Organisation.
1	Bihar Light Railway Men's Union, Light Railway Colony, Arrah	58	5th September 1944.	*A.I T U C.
2	The Rohtas Industries *Mazdoor Sangh*, Dalmianagar.	93	4th September 1946.	†H.M.S

* A. I. T. U C.—All-India Trade Union Congress.

† H. M. S —Hind Mazdoor Sabha.

Serial no.	Name of the union.	Registration number	Date of Registration	Affiliation with Central Organisation.
3	The Rohtas Industries Staff Union, Dehri-on Sone	110	24th January 1947	Not affiliated.
4	The Baulia Quarries *Mazdoor Sangh*, Baulia	128	8th March 1947.	H.M.S.
5	The Arrah Scavengers' Union, Arrah	155	27th June 1947	H.M.S.
6	The Rohtas Quarries *Mazdoor Sangh*, Murli, Rohtas	135	29th March 1947	*I.N.T.U.C.
7	The Kamayarange Quarries Labour Union, Banjari	199	11th November 1947.	I.N.T.U.C.
8	Kalyanpur Lime and Cement Workers' Union, Kalyanpur.	200	15th November 1947	I.N.T.U.C.
9	Electrification and Lift Irrigation Employees' Union, Dehri	227	10th January 1948.	I.N.T.U.C.
10	Arrah Electric Supply Co. Workers' Union, Arrah	248	4th March 1948	H.M.S.
11	Dalmianagar *Mazdoor Seva Sangh*, Dalmianagar	297	24th September 1948	I.N.T.U.C.
12	Dehri Rohtas Light Railway Employees' Union Dalmianagar.	301	28th October 1948.	H.M.S.
13	Baulia Quarries *Rastriya Mazdoor Seva Sangh*, Baulia.	356	5th May 1949	I.N.T.U.C.
14	Shahabad Zila *Dukan Karamchari* Union, Arrah	418	11th February 1950.	Not affiliated.
15	Buxar Municipal *Karamchari* Union, Buxar	503	7th April 1951	Ditto.
16	Rickshaw *Mazdoor* Union, Buxar .	504	9th April 1951	Ditto
17	Dehri on Sone Dalmianagar Notified Area Workers' Union, Dehri	534	30th November 1951.	Ditto.
18	The P.W.D. Workers' Union, Dehri	536	18th January 1952.	A.I.T.U.C.
19	Dalmianagar Staff Employees' Union, Dalmianagar	570	9th January 1952	Not affiliated
20	Shahabad *Sona Chandi Karigar* Union, Dumraon	634	14th September 1953.	A.I.T.U.C.
21	*Dumraon Industries Mazdoor Union, Dumraon*	697	*23rd October 1954*	*Not affiliated*
22	Shahabad Stone Quarries *Mazdoor* Congress, Karwandia, Shahabad.	746	7th October 1955	Ditto
23	Arrah *Aspatal Karamchari Sangh*, Arrah.	757	26th November 1955.	Ditto

*I. N. T. U. C.—Indian National Trade Union Congress.

Serial no.	Name of the union.	Registration number	Date of Registration.	Affiliation with Central Organisation.
24	Cinema *Karamchari Sangh*, Arrah	792	11th August 1956.	H.M.S.
25	*Biri Mazdoor* Union, Arrah	793	11th August 1956	A.I.T.U.C.
26	Martin Light Railway Employees Union, Arrah.	839	23rd October 1957	H.M.S.
27	Cinema *Karamchari Sangh*, Buxar	853	7th May 1958	H.M.S.
28	Eastern Railway Vending and Catering Workers' Union, Dehri on Sone	856	7th May 1958	Not affiliated.
29	Eastern Railway Licensed Porters Union, Dehri	865	27th September 1958	Ditto.
30	*Vyapar Mazdoor* Union, Dehri	882	30th December 1958	Ditto.
31	Bihar Martin Light Railway *Mazdoor* Union Congress, Arrah	888	27th February 1959	Ditto
32	*Biri Mazdoor* Union, Jagdishpur	917	4th October 1959	H.M.S.
33	Shahabad *Khelohar Mazdoor Sangh*, Maravna, P.O. Karma, Shahabad.	927	21st November 1959	Not affiliated.
34	Nokha Mills *Mazdoor Sewa Sangh*, Nokha	931	11th January 1960.	Ditto.
35	*Karamchari Sangh*, Nawratan Bazar, Sasaram	949	31st March 1960	Ditto
36	Dehri Dalmianagar *Biri Mazdoor* Union, Dehri on Sone.	985	26th October 1960	Ditto.
37	Universal Bank Employees' Union, Dalmianagar.	986	26th October 1960	Ditto
38	Kachuar Quarries *Mazdoor* Union, Banjari	987	26th October 1960	Ditto.
39	Dehri Workshop *Mazdoor* Union, Dehri on Sone	1002	6th December 1960	Ditto.
40	*Chawal Mill Mazdoor Panchayat*, Nokha	1011	6th July 1961	Ditto
41	Rickshaw *Chalak Panchayat* Sasaram	1018	12th August 1961.	Ditto
42	Press *Karamchari Sangh*, Sasaram	1019	14th August 1961	Ditto.
43	*Rastriya Paramit Mazdoor Sangh*, Anjhora Shahabad	1026	9th November 1961	Ditto.
44	Rickshaw *Mazdoor* Union, Dumraon, Shahabad.	1040	6th July 1962	Ditto.
45	Sone Barrage *Karamchari Sangh*, Dalmianagar	1052	10th July 1962	Ditto.
46	Patel Baruni Lime Stone Quarries *Mazdoor Sangh* Rohtas.	1060	20th December 1962	Ditto.

There are no employers' organisations in the district.

WELFARE OF INDUSTRIAL LABOUR

There are altogether 510 factories running with power and 20 factories running without power. About 24,421 labourers are working in this district in the registered factories. This number, however, does not include the workers employed in construction work relating to the factories.

Labour Welfare.—For the successful implementation of the different objectives to be realised through various labour laws regarding general condition of work, health, remuneration, safety and security, it had been contemplated in the two Five-Year Plans to augment the strength of the Factory Inspectorate so that the frequency of inspection may be increased To achieve the end one Inspector of Factories with staff has been posted at Dehri-on-Sone.

Secondly, one Labour Superintendent and two Labour Officers are posted at Arrah under the programme of expansion of the Labour Department. The officers look after labour welfare work of the industrial establishments in the district. Their duty covers housing conditions, recreational, educational and sanitary facilities for the workmen The employees have to be provided with canteens, dispensaries, hospitals and other requirements under the Factories Act.

WELFARE AMENITIES SUPPLIED BY THE FACTORIES IN THE DISTRICT UNDER FACTORIES ACT.

As regards provision for the welfare facilities to industrial workers it may be noted that under the Bihar Factories Act, 1948, there has been provision for welfare facilities mentioned below:—

Washing facilities.—In every factory adequate and suitable facilities for washing shall be provided and maintained for the use of the workers therein. Separate and adequately screened facilities shall be provided for the use of male and female workers. In every factory suitable sitting arrangements be provided and maintained for all workers obliged to work in a standing position, in order that they may take advantage of any opportunities for rest, which may occur in the course of their work.

First-aid boxes have to be maintained and in the factory with more than five hundred workers, an ambulance with medical and nursing staff has to be maintained.

Canteens.—In the factory where more than two hundred and fifty workers are employed, a canteen or canteens shall be provided and maintained by the occupier for the use of the workers.

Shelter, rest rooms and lunch rooms.—In the factory where more than one hundred and fifty workers are employed, shelters or rest rooms with provision for drinking water shall be provided and maintained for the use of the workers.

Creches.—In the factory where more than fifty women workers are employed a room or rooms for the use of the children under the age of six years of such women

shall be provided. Such rooms shall provide sufficient accommodation and lighting and shall be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition under the charge of women trained in the care of children and infants.

Welfare Officers.—In the factory where five hundred or more workers are employed, the employer shall employ welfare officers as may be prescribed.

WELFARE FACILITIES PROVIDED BY THE FACTORIES.

(1) *Kalyanpur Lime and Cement Works Limited, Banjari.*—This factory employs about 1,892 workers. Since 1958 there is one middle school with 200 students and five teachers. During 1961-62 one high school has also been started with 179 students and seven teachers. A well equipped club has been provided for the recreation of the workers. The factory provides free housing accommodation for about 700 workers. A canteen and a creche have been provided by the factory. A Welfare Officer has been appointed to look after the welfare and interests of the workers.

There is a labour welfare centre sponsored by the State Government and also a voluntary welfare centre started by the company where the workers of all the industrial units of Banjari have an access. A hospital with about 18 indoor beds has been started by the company. Besides, the Employees State Insurance dispensary has been started by the Government where only the registered employees of the factory are treated. Ten beds in the company's hospital are reserved for hospital cases from Employees' State Insurance dispensary.

(2) *Pulp Factory, Dalmianagar.*—The factory employs about 1,439 workers. It has started one middle school with 150 students and four teachers, a well equipped club, a library, free housing accommodation for about 800 workers, a canteen, a creche, and a ten-bedded hospital. The factory has appointed a Welfare Officer to look after the interests of the workers.

(3) *Paper Factory, Dalmianagar.*—The factory employs about 1,970 workers. A Welfare Officer has been appointed by the factory. A recreation club, a voluntary welfare centre, a middle school with 179 students and four teachers, a canteen, a creche and a library have been provided by the factory. About 1,000 workers have been given houses.

(4) *Cement Factory, Dalmianagar.*—The factory employs about 780 workers. A well equipped club has been provided for the workers with games and library. A canteen and creche have been started. The factory provides free housing accommodation to about one-third of the employees. A Welfare Officer has been appointed by the company to look after the interest of the workers.

(5) *Asbestos, Vanaspati and Sugar Factory, Dalmianagar.*—These factories employ about 1,046 workers. A Welfare Officer has been appointed by the factory. A recreation club, a middle school with 315 students and seven teachers, a canteen, a creche and a library have been provided by the factories. About 579 workers have been given houses

Besides, one Employees' State Insurance Dispensary with two doctors, two compounders, two dressers has been provided by the State Government. One high school has been started with 675 students and 20 teachers A well-equipped club has been provided for the recreation of the workers. Under the Industrial Housing Scheme, 500 quarters have been allotted by the State Government to all workers of the factories located at Dalmianagar.

There is a Labour Welfare Centre sponsored by the State Government and also a voluntary welfare centre started by the Company where the workers of all the industrial units of Dalmianagar have an access. A hospital with about 47 indoor beds has been started by the Company. A rest shelter has been provided where drinking water is also supplied.

It may be noted that the welfare centres located at Kalyanpur and Dalmianagar have got a film projector and a propaganda-*cum*-health van There are facilities for indoor and outdoor games

The organisation at Dalmianagar maintains a dairy for supply of cow and buffalo milk at subsidised rate to the employees. Fire-wood and soft coke are also supplied to the workers at concessional rate To workers working in conditions that entail dust and gas, mustard oil and *gur* are supplied free of cost Soap and soda are also supplied free of cost

Workers' Earnings—A worker getting a basic wage of Rs 21 00 per week gets Rs 90 00 for working 28 days If the cost of his work, holidays and weekly rests are taken into, he earns Rs. 112.35 per month as under in 1963-64.—

		Rs.
(1)	Weekly wage . .	21.00
(2)	Dearness allowance . ..	39.00
(3)	Bonus	12.12
(4)	Company's contribution to Provident Fund.	1 12
(5)	Gratuity	2.50
(6)	Minimum cost of accommodation ..	9.61
(7)	Proportionate cost of leave, holidays and weekly rests.	27 00
	TOTAL	112.35

The production bonus scheme enables the employees to earn between 10 per cent to 15 per cent of their gross wages. Maximum bonus earned in different factories in 1963-64 is as under:—

(1) Pulp 12.25 per cent of gross wages.
(2) Paper 13.72 per cent of gross wages.
(3) Cement 26.72 per cent of gross wages
(4) Asbestos 10.25 per cent of gross wages.
(5) Vanaspati 12.50 per cent of gross wages.
(6) Chemical 14.18 per cent of gross wages
(7) Acid 17.58 per cent of gross wages
(8) Power House 13.68 per cent of gross wages.
(9) Electric Workshop 15.15 per cent of gross wages
(10) Vulcanised fibre 17.10 per cent of gross wages

INDUSTRIAL POTENTIAL AND PLANS FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

Shahabad district has a good industrial potential based on agriculture, mineral and forest resources. The southern belt has a good deposit of high quality limestone. Recently (1960) a huge reserve of pyrites has been found in Amjhore to the south-west of Banjari about 21 miles from Dehri-on-Sone. It is proposed to recover the sulphur in elemental forms. Apart from above, this will help in preparing the acid plant in Sindri in Dhanbad district from the waste gas. Sulphuric acid is one of the important chemical products based on which a number of other chemical industries may be started. After the full exploitation of this project, India is expected to meet the sulphur requirements. The Government of India will shortly enter into an agreement with a Finnish firm for the installation of the said plant to produce sulphuric acid from pyrites. Dr Kane, Adviser to the Union Petroleum Ministry, New Delhi, had proceeded to Finland for finalising the negotiations. Pyrite reserves at Amjhore has been estimated at about 200 million tons.

There are already two cement factories at Dehri-on-Sone and Banjari, which are fed by the limestones available in plenty in Kaimur areas. There are a number of lime producing units in the district. Full exploitation of the deposits can only be possible, if communications are better developed. The narrow gauge Dehri-Rohtas Light Railway runs only up to Pipardih and further extension is required. The capacity of this railway is very limited and cannot cope with the growing demand. Transport through trucks is also difficult and expensive because of bad road communications. Better roads and better railways can only fully utilise the rich industrial potential of the area. Apart from these cement factories, the cement factory of Japla in Palamau district is also fed through ropeways from Baulia in the Rohtas lime hills. Now with the

prospect of the establishment of the new Steel Plant at Bokaro either in Dhanbad or in Hazaribagh district, the demand of lime will increase tremendously. As a matter of fact the blue print regarding the resources to be tapped for the Bokaro Steel Project mentions utilising the limestone deposits of this area. At present (1964) the lime deposits of Rohtas hills are connected by the narrow gauge Dehri-Rohtas Light Railways, owned by the Rohtas Industries which will not be able to cope with the increased load of goods traffic in the near future. With the growing importance of this area for pyrites and supply of lime to the Steel Plants, it is felt necessary that the above railway line should have broad gauge and double lines. Electrification of the railway section when made into broad gauge with double lines will follow automatically. It is understood that the railway section from Gaya to Mugalsarai will soon have electrification.

Rohtas Industries have created an industrial nucleus for development of a number of new industries. A number of industrial units as discussed before are running. It may be repeated that there is a great concentration of large-scale industries in Dalmianagar a part of Dehri situated in the southern part of the district. The possibilities of starting new industries either to feed the large-scale units or to utilise their products for further processing on small-scale basis, viz. (1) Cement Factory, (2) Asbestos Cement Factory, (3) Vulcanised Fibre Plant, (4) Paper mills, (5) Sugar Factory, and (6) *Vanaspati* Factory were examined by the office of the Development Commissioner (Small-Scale Industries), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi during 1959-60 in Shahabad district. They had submitted a Small Scale Industry Area Survey Report in 1960 for Shahabad district.

According to this report the new small industries from large-scale industrial units at Dalmianagar are as follows:—

(1) *Cement*.--There is a good scope for manufacturing spun pipes and cement tiles. These two industries have good prospects in Bihar, as the existing units cannot meet the growing demand of the State. Dalmianagar could be a central location for such types of units.

(2) *Asbestos*.—A unit for manufacturing soil pipes and drainage pipes from asbestos cement could be set up along with this unit, as the proposed unit would be required to mould the wet asbestos cement into soil pipes and drainage pipes.

(3) *Vulcanised fibre*.—(*a*) Due to easy availability of vulcanised fibre, a unit for the manufacture of suit-cases, winding spools for silk mills and enamelled electric wires may be set up near Dalmianagar.

The Vulcanised Fibre may also be used for making fibre coding for use in telephones and other electrical installations.

(*b*) The Vulcanised Fibre plant at Dalmianagar is consuming about 3,000 pieces of black sheet pans of the value of Rs 10,000 monthly in the manufacture of vulcanised fibre cans The demand for these bottom is likely to rise to 6 000 (numbers) monthly in the near future. At present (1964) these are purchased from Calcutta These black sheet bottoms could be manufactured by a small-scale unit, located nearby Dalmianagar.

(*c*) The Vulcanised Fibre Plant in Dalmianagar is selling about 4 tons of waste vulcanised fibre sheets every month These sheets have a maximum width of 12″ and a maximum length of about 3′6″ These are being purchased by suitcase manufacturers of Kanpur and Agra for making suitcase corners These pieces can be used for making waste paper basket, washers and corks. Dalmianagar could be the best place to start this unit.

(4) *Paper*.—The present unit is consuming felts and wires worth of Rs 12 lakhs annually which are imported from other countries. According to the management of this factory, felt worth Rs 2 crores are consumed by the paper mills all over the country whole of which are imported from outside A unit may be started in Dalmianagar

(5) *Sugar*.—(*a*) This unit is consuming chains and spare parts, etc The unit also consumes bolts and nuts of ½″ to ¾″ length and valves from ½″ to 6″ sizes All these spares may be profitably manufactured by small-scale units A factory could probably be set up for manufacturing valves in Dalmianagar or near about

(*b*) There is a good scope for setting up a unit for manufacturing sugar cubes at Dalmianagar There is a growing demand for sugar cubes in the country There are three sugar mills also located within a radius of 100 miles They are at Bihta, Warsaliganj and Guraru which will also supply sugar besides the sugar mill at Dalmianagar

(*c*) The sugar mill at Dalmianagar releases 9,600 gallons of molasses per day A distillery unit may be set up in Dalmianagar. It may be noted that there are other three sugar mills within a radius of 100 miles and the distillery unit can be fully supplied with molasses.

The units are at Bihta in Patna district and Warsaliganj and Guraru in Gaya district It has been estimated by the Survey Committee that about 22,000 gallons of molasses would be available daily which is sufficient to feed a distillery

(6) *Vanaspati*—The *vanaspati* factory at Dalmianagar is using nickel as catalyst which becomes waste after being used twice About two tons of nickel waste (containing 5 7 per cent nickel) is available annually from this factory This waste may be used in the manufacture of nickel salts used mostly for electroplating purposes The possibility is to procure the nickel waste and setting up a unit for manufacturing its salts at Dalmianagar*

It may be mentioned here that in spite of the recommendations of the Survey Committee's Report in 1960, no such industrial units on small scale basis have been started in the district as yet

Straw boards which find market for use as flat files, for book binding trade, for card board boxes and for making registers have got a ready market Hence straw board may be manufactured out of paddy straw At Dumraon, a straw board manufacturing unit has been sponsored and is expected to go into action very soon About 4,26,524 maunds of paddy straw are available annually in the district In board making bleaching which requires very costly plants is not essential and the board is made mainly by manual process after the pulp has been prepared The feasibility of a possible site for a unit at Rajpur in Buxar subdivision may be examined

Two-rolling mills one at Nokha and the other at Buxar have been started in 1961 With the increased demand of mild steel rod for building purpose, the prospect of rolling mills appears to be quite bright near Dalmianagar area

The rate of cattle mortality especially in the northern part of the district in *diara* area is reported to be very high during the flood seasons. Bhojpur, Koilwar, Chenari and Bhabua are the main centres for collection of semi-dried salted hides, which are exported to Calcutta market. The State Government has taken a decision to locate a small tannery at Bhabua Recently (1963) Rampur village about a mile from Bhabua has been selected for starting a model tannery unit Further, the Khadi and Village Industries Board, Bihar, has decided to start a model tannery at Chenari and the work is in progress

* Extract taken from the book Small-Scale Industry Area Survey Report by the office of the Development Commissioner (Small-Scale Industries), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, New Delhi (pages 62—68) (Year 1959-60)

The local exploitation of the bones which are sent out of the district may also be investigated.

These tanneries will be benefited by the abundance of tanning materials especially Myrobalan in Adhaura range and an unit for manufacture of tanning materials especially Myrobalan powder may be set up successfully in Rohtas range.

Buxar and Nokha are at the centre of rich rice-growing areas. Rice grain is made up of husk, the seed coat, embryo at the end and the starchy portion inside. During the process of milling, when only the husk is removed, the product obtained is brown rice. Further polishing of the brown rice in order to get white rice results in removal of the red coating from the outer layer of the grain and embryo from the corners which constitute bran The bran is roughly between 5 per cent to 8 per cent of unpolished rice It contains oil to the extent of 15 per cent to 22 per cent This rice oil may be extracted from the bran with the help of a suitable solvent The oil so obtained is edible and may also be used in the manufacture of *vanaspati* or for making soap The prospects of two units, one at Nokha and another at Buxar may be looked into for extraction of oil from rice bran.

Further development of communications will help industrialisation. If there is a straight railway line or a first class metalled road from Arrah to Bhabua running through Udwantnagar, Jagdishpur, Piro, Dawath, Dinara, Karghar and Kudra, this will open up further the rich rice bowl of this district It will create a better market and it may be visualised that there could be a better utilisation of paddy straw for starting a straw board factory

Further development of communications covering Chainpur, Bhagwanpur, portions of Chenari, Adhaura and Rohtas area will also lead to more industrialisation and probably timber utilisation plants could be located somewhere near Chenari

There is abundance of lightwood like *Gambhar* in the forests of Kaimur hills which is exported at present (1964) to Varanasi for the manufacture of toys A few units for seasoning of this wood and manufacture of wooden toys may probably be set up in the Rohtas range.

Manufacture of blankets is an old indigenous cottage industry in Nasriganj There is no difficulty in the availability of wool Development of this industry is definitely indicated

Nasriganj has also been a great centre for turnover of timber and bamboos Nasriganj can have some saw mills or even a timber seasoning unit

It is understood that country boats used to be once made at Nasriganj. There is no reason as to why this industry cannot be encouraged

There is a scheme to settle the weavers to work on power-looms at village Maharajganj near Tilothu Bazar and at Nasriganj Fifty power-looms have been sanctioned for Nasriganj

Industrial Estate

The establishment of Industrial Estate has already come to be recognised as a positive means to achieve decentralisation and dispersal of industry The four Industrial Estates set up in Patna, Biharsharif, Darbhanga and Ranchi during the Second Five-Year Plan have been helpful in building up an industrial outlook and for stimulating investment in consumer goods industries

Accordingly, in the light of the recommendation of the working group set up by the Government of India for small-scale industries, the following schemes of the Industrial Estates have been proposed in the Third Five-Year Plan in Bihar —

(a) Two units of Large Industrial Estates at an estimated cost of Rs 15 lakhs each for towns having population ranging between 50,000 and 1,00,000

(b) Two units of Small Industrial Estates at an estimated cost of Rs 10 lakhs for towns having population between 20,000 and 50,000

(c) Ten units of Small Industrial Estates at an estimated cost of Rs 5 lakhs each for towns having population between 5,000 and 20,000

(d) Fifty units of Workshop Sheds for village artisans at an estimated cost of Rs 10,000 each in rural towns having less than 5,000 population

The total outlay on these schemes, therefore, is kept at Rs 20,000 lakhs for the entire Third Plan period

The State Government has taken a decision in 1963 to set up an Industrial Estate at Bikramganj Some more places namely, Arrah Dehri-on-Sone and Buxar for Industrial Estates may be taken up.

Lastly it may be noted that as many of the blocks of this district are under Intensive Agricultural Development Programme, there is a huge demand of agricultural implements for the implementation of this programme Some of the units at Buxar, Bihea and Dehri-on-Sone are manufacturing one or two items but the bulk of such implements are being purchased from Uttar Pradesh and as such there is a good prospect for developing such units which can manufacture the various implements like ploughs, ridgers and thrashers,

etc. Any plan for exploiting the industrial potential of a district should also mention as to the availability of man-power There is a surplus population within the district that is not usefully employed. The people of the district are sturdy and intelligent and there are certain sections where indigenous technical skill is readily available. There will be no dearth of local man-power to run the industries whether cottage, small scale or large scale It is a complaint that the children of the soil and particularly the men of Shahabad district have got a very small percentage of employment in the industries within the district It is also a notorious fact that the labourers in the lime quarries are mostly outsiders This, however, is mostly due to the allergy of the local people to take to such hard manual work

CHAPTER VI.

BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE.

HISTORY OF INDIGENOUS BANKING IN THE DISTRICT.

Before the introduction of the modern banking system in this district people both in the rural and urban areas normally invested their savings in land, ornaments and cattle. The dignity and status of a family were judged more by his landed property People also used to keep money buried for its safety This facility was available to the people because money was, in earlier days, mostly in coins. The savings invested in land and cattle proved a good source of income

The money-lenders used to advance money at a very exorbitant rate of compound interest The usual result was that the debtor was unable to repay the principal and the interest and had to part with some of his property to satisfy the creditor. Ultimately a stage was even reached when the debtor lost most of his property

There were also other methods of borrowing money. They were through (i) handnotes, (ii) mortgage of property, and (iii) *Zarpesgi* or *Sood Bharna* Handnotes still continue to be the means for taking loans When the loanee was literate, there was little chance of bungling except that sometimes a loanee in distress had to make out a handnote for a larger amount than what he actually received. When the loanee was illiterate he was advanced a loan on giving thumb impression on blank paper which was filled in later on by the creditor In the case of mortgage, the land mortgaged continued to be in the possession of the debtor and the interest on the loan was compoundable usually every half-year The amount actually received might be less than what was stipulated in the mortgage deed but the debtor had to pay the stipulated capital along with the interest thereon The debtor was occasionally not in a position of repaying the loan and the property mortgaged eventually passed into the hands of the creditor The third method of *Zarpesgi* or *Sood Bharna* was that the land mortaged immediately passed into the hands of the creditor for enjoyment and the debtor was liable only to pay the principal. After the stipulated period, the debtor could repay the amount of *Zarpesgi* and get back his land The creditor had the advantage of enjoying the produce of the land till it was redeemed The profit due to this use of the land by the creditor was taken as the repayment of interest on the loan hence this arrangement was called *Sood Bharna* also.

A third kind of indebtedness arose due to paucity of warm clothing like blankets, etc, during the winter months. This was generally taken advantage of the foreigners like *Kabuliwalas* who used to sell woollen and cotton blankets, *chaddars* and clothing to the poorer people of the district at exorbitant prices payable in the month of *Baisakh* of every year. These types of indebtedness still continue

In the urban areas the system of lending and borrowing was on a more organised basis There were regular *gaddis* of the *mahajans* in the district for lending and borrowing and also issuing and cashing *hundis* (bill of exchange) The lendings and borrowings were at a rate of interest which were not as exorbitant as in the rural areas. The rates varied and were higher if the loan was unsecured The usual security was in the shape of ornaments or lands or houses For commercial transactions, there were *gaddis* of some important commercial houses at Arrah, Sasaram and Buxar. The *gaddis* belonged to some of the affluent Sahu families and to some of the prominent landlords and their *hundis* were respected in other districts as well Money was also borrowed from some of the prominent *mahajan* of Banaras.

The agency of the *Kabuliwalas* for advancing loans still continues It is only the low paid Government servants, school masters and poorer people who cannot hope to get unsecured loan from other sources take loans from these persons The rate of interest usually charged by the *Kabuliwalas* is two annas per rupee per month But these *Kabuliwalas* try their best to realise their interest only on the pay day of every month and avoid taking their principal. If necessary, they resort to abuse and even physical force to realise it.

Francis Buchanan in his 'An Account of the District of Shahabad (1912-13) has mentioned that there were agricultural banking establishment in the district The bankers persuaded the land-holders to make a nominal sale to them of large parts of their estates and to retain only certain parts, on which most of the revenue was contrived to be thrown These parts were afterwards allowed to be sold for arrears and no one would offer

He further mentioned that Baidyanath, a banker of Patna and Sagar Lal of Arrah were big *mahajans* and they had procured their property by questionable means * The number of native banks had increased at the time of W W Hunter (1877) but no European bank had any branch in Shahabad district

Regarding money-lending W. W. Hunter has mentioned that the rate of interest in petty loans, when the borrower pawns some small article (such as an ornament or household vessel), was even

* *An Account of the District of Shahabad in 1812-13* by Francis Buchanan published by Bihar and Orissa Research Society, Patna, 1934, page 396.

24 per cent per annum In large transactions, or when a mortgage was given upon houses or lands, the rate was 12 per cent. For petty advances to the cultivators, the rate varied, with the necessity of the borrower, from 24 to 28 per cent per annum.

He further mentioned that money-lending was conducted not only by the village shopkeepers and grain merchants but also by the land-owners. Ninety per cent of the cultivating classes were supposed to be in debt, and unless some radical change was made in their relations with the land-owners, they were never likely to free themselves from the burden *

GENERAL CREDIT FACILITIES, INDEBTEDNESS, RURAL AND URBAN.

General credit facilities now available in the district are normally the professional money-lenders, agriculturist money-lenders, richer relatives, traders, co-operative, ex-landlords and lastly the State

Generally, it may, however, be said that indebtedness is almost a normal feature in the economy of the average family of the common man The middle class which forms the backbone of the society is the hardest-hit in the present set up and the incidence of indebtedness in that class is quite high.

The need of credit of the common man in the district was usually met by the *mahajans* and the Zamindars at a high rate of interest A few years before, these *mahajans* and Zamindars were profiteering in money lending business with their high rate of interest varying from 18 to 36 per cent per annum. The private money lenders and generally the old *mahajan* families have been known to advance paddy seeds or money for it in *Kharif* transplantation season to the poor cultivators at a rate of even 50 per cent interest Registration of sale or mortgage deeds for borrowing money is common and their figures will give some idea of the trend of indebtedness The following table indicates the number of sale or exchange or mortgage and other in the last six years:--

Year.	Sale or Exchange deeds. Total no.	Sale or Exchange deeds. Value in rupees.
1957	26,251	2,30,40,981
1958	30,360	2,75,54,714
1959	31,390	2,86,04,494
1960	39,242	3,70,13,174
1961	36,051	3,61,92,055
1962	31,867	3,32,24,332

* *Statistical Account of Bengal, Volume XII* (Gaya and Shahabad) by W. W. Hunter published in 1877, page 269.

Year.	Mortgage. Total no.	Value in rupees
1957	8,935	1,29,53,203
1958	23,588	1,64,91,769
1959	19,535	1,43,47,614
1960	24,161	2,06,57,493
1961	23,643	2,17,54,260
1962	19,211	1,93,21,592

Year	Other kind of deeds Total no	Value in rupees
1957	3,468	30,96,725
1958	4,306	39,93,935
1959	4,158	45,53,602
1960	5,875	50,52,329
1961	6,410	61,30,040
1962	5,783	63,99,057

To safeguard the interest of the borrowers the Money-lenders Act, 1938 was passed. The main object of the Act was to check the rising tendency of the interest and thereby to grant relief to the debtor. This Act was made applicable to the Shahabad district. This Act was followed by another Act known as the Bihar Money lenders (Regulation of Transactions) Act, 1939 according to which 'no court shall, in any suit brought by a money-lender in respect of a loan advanced after the commencement of this Act pass a decree for interest at rates exceeding nine per cent per year in the case of a secured loan and twelve per cent per annum in the case of an unsecured loan, an agreement entered into by a debtor for the payment of compound interest realised cannot be greater than the amount of loan advanced."*

This Act makes it obligatory for a money-lender to register himself and obtain a license for his business He has to maintain regular account books and to furnish each debtor periodically a signed statement of accounts in respect of each loan transaction showing the outstanding amount of the principal and the interest and the amount of every payment received from the debtor Penalties are provided for breaches.

* *The Bihar Code*, Vol. IV page 120.

The following chart gives the number of the licensed money-lenders of the district from 1952-53 to 1961-62:—

Year.	At the beginning of the year. Urban	Rural.
1952-53	9,266	Nil
1953-54	2,261	5,641
1954 55	2,767	6,572
1955-56	2,193	7,169
1956-57	2,298	7,966
1957 58	2,228	8,491
1958 59	2,039	9,213
1959 60	2,331	10,410
1960-61	2,637	11,423
1961-62	2,795	12,212

Year.	At the close of the year. Urban	Rural
1952 53	2,261	5,641
1953-54	2,266	6,572
1954-55	2,193	7,159
1955-56	2,298	7,966
1956-57	2,228	8,491
1957-58	2,039	9,213
1958 59	2,416	10,695
1959-60	2,516	11,288
1960 61	2,795	11,212
1961-62	3,187	12,545

The following families carried on money-lending business of Rs. 10,000 and above during the year 1960-61*.—

Serial no.	Name of families	Places where business were carried on
1	Srimati Bhari Devi, W/o Sri Mahadeo Prasad Sharma	Arrah town.
2	Sri Ram Balak Singh, S/o Sri Palal Singh	P.O Kasap, Shahabad.
3	Sri Rudal Prasad Rai, S/o Sri Ajan Rai	Sasaram.
4	Srimati Ramdulari Upadhyay, W/o Sri Badri Nath Upadhyay.	Jagdishpur.

* The statement has been compiled from data given by the District Sub-Registrar, Arrah.

Serial no.	Name of families.	Places where business were carried on.
5	Sri Ram Khelawan Singh, S/o Late Sri Lakhpati Singh	Arrah town.
6	M/s. Narayan Kumar & Company . ..	Arrah town.
7	Sri Ram Lochan Singh, S/o Late Sri Ram Nagina Singh	Jagdishpur.
8	Sri Bishwanth Prasad Gupta, S/o Sri Ram Chandra Prasad.	Arrah town.
9	Sri Sheo Saran Prasad, S/o Sri Mahabir Prasad ..	Biranpur, P.-S. Arrah
10	Sri Hardwar Rai, S/o Sri Parmeshwar Rai ..	P S. Shahpur, Arrah

Co-operative Credit Societies and Banks.

History.

With the passing of the Co-operative Societies Act of 1912, Co-operative Societies began to be organised and registered in this district. Registered Societies were organised at Sasaram, Buxar and Arrah subdivisions between the years 1915-1918 These societies had the objective of supply of credit with unlimited liability. Some Societies were also registered in Bhabua subdivision in 1925. The Central Co-operative Banks at Sasaram, Arrah and Buxar were opened in 1915 and at Bhabua in 1925. The societies in their respective jurisdiction were affiliated to the respective Central Banks. The Central Banks were managed by a Board of Directors, elected by the shareholders, with the Subdivisional Officer as the *ex-officio* Chairman

Due to the economic depression and fall in the agricultural prices, the societies received a great setback and the agriculturists were unable to repay their loans between 1928 to 1936. The condition of the Co operative Banks in general and particularly the Central Banks at Arrah and Buxar deteriorated considerably. These two Central Co-operative Banks were liquidated in 1941-42 The societies affiliated to these two banks were about 225.

In 1946 47, the Multipurpose scheme was introduced under which new Co-operative Societies with multipurpose objects were organised with limited liabilities and most of the old credit societies were converted into multipurpose societies These societies were charged with the work of distribution of commodities in short supply and had to be controlled by various statutes Some Consumers' Co-operative Stores were also organised for this purpose. In 1949, the members of such societies and stores stood at about 400 throughout the district.

With a view to ensure close supervision and rapid expansion of the movement a new administrat ve circle was created in 1949 with headquarters at Arrah under the charge of an Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies

With the introduction of the First Five-Year Plan in 1951 an intensive effort was made for consolidation and expansion of the co-operative movement A large number of co-operative societies were organised Two new Central Banks in place of the liquidated banks at Arrah and Buxar were organised in 1950 in order to finance and supervise the expanding number of societies and their activities

The Multipurpose Societies distributed both loans and manures among the agriculturists for improving the agricultural production. The sale of fertilizers through depots is one of the main duties of the Co operative Societies.

The following figures will show the cash and credit sale of fertilizers through the Co-operative Societies and Central Credit Agricole Depots in this district since 1952 to 1963*.—

Years.	Tons
1952-53	2,210
1953-54	2,900
1954-55	3,500
1955-56	4,100
1956-57	Not available.
1957-58	4,500
1958-59	5,000
1959-60	6,000
1960-61	10,000
1961-62	18,000
1962-63	21,000

Before the adoption of the recommendations of the Rural Credit Survey Committee in 1958, the Co-operative Movement was treated more as a non-official movement and little Governmental assistance was given The departmental officers had only the power to inspect the societies and to suggest remedies for improvement. But after the adoption of the recommendations of the Rural Credit Survey Committee in the year 1958, the Co-operative Movement took a different form. Government began to give aid in the shape of contribution of share capital in the primary and apex institution and also managerial assistance. Since then the number of societies, their membership and share capital have shown a marked increase.

* This information was collected from the Manager, Credit Agricole Depot, Arrah.

This is evident from the following figures for the years at the advent of First, Second and Third Five-Year Plans —

Year	Kind of societies	No. of societies	Membership	Loan advanced	Value of goods sold	Paid up share capital	Reserve and other funds	Working capital
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
				Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1951	1 Multipurpose Co-operative Societies	269	12,556	8,550	4,38,000	1,33,523	Nil	2,85,000
	2 Non-agricultural and non-credit societies	21	945	Nil	5,74,000	91,000	Nil	1,93,000
	3 Industrial Societies		*	*		*		
	4 Non-agricultural (Salary earners) Co-operative Societies							
	5 Joint Farming Co-operative Societies	*						
	6 Milk Dairy Co-operative Societies							
	TOTAL	290	13,501	8,550	10,12,000	2,24,523	Nil	4,78,000

*This information was collected from the Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Arrah. The figures exclude Sasaram and Bhabua Circles.

Year.	Kind of societies	No of societies	Membership	Loan advanced	Value of goods sold	Paid up share capital	Reserve and other funds.	Working capital
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
				Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1956*	1 Multipurpose Co opera tive Societies.	907	18,111	11,89,118	6,39,577	1,02,547	22,757	6,32,106
	2. Non-agricultural and non-credit societies	13	504	Nil	80,408	17,271	5,000	31,320
	3 Industrial Societies	10	875	Nil	1 65,175	16,820	2,656	1,70,309
	4 Non-agricultural (Salary earners) Co-opera tive Societies.	5	448	Nil	Nil	17,885	4 402	19,750
	5 Joint Farming Co opera tive Societies.	2	15	2,500		3 000		..
	6 Milk Dairy Co operative Societies	1	37	Nil	7,650	405		405
	TOTAL	968	19,990	11,91,618	8,92,810	2 17,991	34 815	8 53,890
1961	1 Multipurpose Co opera tive Societies	2,230	42 784	21,53,061	19,35,069	5 91 051	69 286	32 33,913
	2 Non-agricultural and non-credit Societies	103	735	14,978	2 41,414	1 01,269	40 789	2,11,372
	3 Industrial Societies	191	1,452	29,198	48,873	20 850	1 444	78,012
	4. Non-agricultural (Salary earners) Co opera tive Societies.	10	440	Nil	5,700	20 430	405	15 340
	5 Joint Farming Co operative Societies.	9	225	11 300	N A	3 075	300	435
	6 Milk Dairy Co operative Societies.	4	50	N A	9,740	705	N A	N A
	TOTAL	2,547	46,184	22,08,537	17,40,796	7,37,380	1,10,224	35,79,072

*This information was collected from the Assistant Registrar Co operative Societies, Arrah The figures exclude Sasaram and Bhabua Circles.

N A .—Not available.

The following is the list of co-operative societies in this district during 1962* —

	Name of society	Arrah Subdn. No. of society.	Bhabua Subdn. No. of society.	Sasaram Subdn. No. of society.	Buxar Subdn. No. of Society.
	1	2	3	4	5
1	Multipurpose Co-operative Society	619	418	631	317
2	Credit Co-operative Society	Nil	..	679	33
3	Canegrowers' Co-operative Societies	20	.	697	46
4	Cane Development and Cane Marketing Union	Nil		4	1
5	Large sized Multipurpose Co-operative Societies	7	2	4	3
6	*Vyapar Mandal Sahyog Samities*	8	4	10	4
7	Oil men's Co-operative Societies		7	..	.
8	Consumers' Co-operative Store	3	6	17	12
9	Weavers' Co-operative Societies	12	6	11	10
10	Joint Farming Co-operative Societies	6	2	8	1
11	*Vishwakarmas* Industrial Co-operative Societies		..	..	..
12	Fishermen's Co-operative Societies	4	2	4	3
13	Bee-keeping Co-operative Societies	Nil	..	1	..
14	Brick Manufacturing Co-operative Societies	2	.	1	..
15	Rope making Co-operative Societies	1	.	1	..
16	Stone cutters' Co-operative Societies	Nil	3	3	.
17	Poultry Co-operative Societies			2	.
18	Soap Manufacturing Co-operative Societies	1	.	2	.
19	Forest Co-operative Societies	Nil		3	.
20	Mahila Industrial Co-operative Societies			3	.

* This information was collected from the Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Arrah. It is, however not known how many of them are actively working. The investigator was told that many of them are not working.

	Name of society	Arrah Subdn. No. of society.	Bhabua Subdn. No. of society.	Sasaram Subdn. No. of society.	Buxar Subdn. No. of society.
	1	2	3	4	5
21	*Khadi Kendrit Rachnatmak* Co-operative Societies.	1		1	..
22	Vegetable Growers' Co-operative Societies	4	2	2	..
23	Hand-pounding Co-operative Societies	1		1	..
24	Carpet Weaving Co-operative Societies	Nil	.	1	..
25	*Samagra Seva* Co-operative Societies			9	..
26	*Charmakar* Industrial Co-operative Societies.		..	11	.
27	Dairy Co-operative Societies		..	1	1
28	Home Construction Co-operative Societies		..	2	..
29	*Gramodyog* Co-operative Societies	..	..	1	..
30	Tail Industry Co-operative Societies	..		2	.
31	Pottery Industry Co-operative Societies.	.		1	.
32	Basket Making Co-operative Societies	.	..	1	..
33	Harijan Co-operative Societies	..	..	1	..
34	Palm-Gur Co-operative Societies	.	.	1	..
35	Industrial and others	76	30	26	40

CENTRAL CO-OPERATIVE BANKS

The four Central Co-operative Banks are at Arrah, Buxar, Sasaram and Bhabua. These four Central Banks work as the pivot of Co-operative banking and credit. All the Co-operative Societies are to be affiliated to these banks for the purpose of supervision, guidance and credit facility. These banks encourage institutional pattern of credit and not extend any credit to individual persons direct. They extend finance only to co-operative institutions which in turn pass on the same to their members.

The Central Co-operative Bank, Buxar is now (1963) amalgamated with the Arrah Central Co-operative Bank which is named as Arrah-Buxar Central Co-operative Bank with its headquarters at Arrah and branch office at Buxar.

The Central Co-operative Bank, Bhabua was amalgamated with the Sasaram Central Co-operative Bank in 1960. The new bank has been named as Sasaram-Bhabua Central Co-operative Bank Ltd., with its headquarters at Sasaram and branch office at Bhabua.

The following table will show the actual working of the Central Co-operative Banks of the district since 1959-60 to 1961-62* —

Year	Membership: Individual	Membership: Societies	Share capital	Reserve and other funds	Deposits	Borrowing	Working capital
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs
Arrah-Buxar Central Co-operative Bank Ltd.							
1959-60	98	737	1,76,222	1,15,200	4,94,801	4,04,004	11,20,227
1960-61	97	807	2,95,207	1,22,313	7,63,158	4,88,342	16,69,020
1961-62	96	1,066	3,36,618	1,31,668	13,05,635	9,58,291	27,31,412
Sasaram-Bhabua Central Co-operative Bank Ltd.							
1959-60	136	1,339	1,95,953	61,707	6,85,940	5,27,549	12,71,148
1960-61	136	1,616	3,19,483	70,217	8,53,275	7,43,466	19,86,941
1961-62	136	1,773	3,68,974	70,587	11,07,965	6,83,716	22,41,160

Year	Loan advanced	Loan realised	Loan due from societies	Percentage of realisation	Overdue	Outside investment	Demand
1	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	Rs	Rs	Rs		Rs	Rs	Rs
Arrah-Buxar Central Co-operative Bank Ltd.							
1959-60	4,42,891	5,77,559	5,55,061	67	2,89,664	1,31,288	8,56,628
1960-61	10,33,899	6,52,568	9,36,412	71	2,90,067	3,75,019	8,97,453
1961-62	23,38,718	17,95,440	14,79,690	91	1,79,018	2,71,243	18,77,166
Sasaram-Bhabua Central Co-operative Bank Ltd.							
1959-60	8,81,952	6,24,889	7,39,329	70.3	3,47,819	1,82,983	11,72,706
1960-61	15,40,631	12,99,149	9,97,329	62.3	2,18,992	5,58,786	15,78,141
1961-62	25,35,681	24,60,386	8,90,169	39.2	2,95,782	10,14,183	27,55,968

* This information was collected from the Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Arrah.

Financing by these banks is restricted to short term and medium term loans for agricultural purposes only. Short-term loans are advanced to agriculturist members to meet their current production needs such as seeds, manures, etc. These loans are made available within nine to twelve months. In exceptional cases such as loans for cultivation of sugarcane they are advanced within fifteen months. Medium term loans are advanced for purchase of livestock, agricultural implements, etc., for a period of three to five years. The rate of interest on all kinds of loans was 6¼ per cent per annum from the ultimate borrower, i.e., the cultivators but from January, 1961 it has been raised to 7½ per cent per annum. Loans are advanced on the security of landed properties of the members but such securities are not required for loans below Rs. 200. Personal securities are taken in all cases. Loans are also available from Co-operative Societies to its non-agriculturist members, such as artisans up to Rs. 100 as working capital. In very exceptional cases loans up to and exceeding Rs. 1,000 are advanced on the prior approval of the Circle Assistant Registrar. Long-term financing is done by Land Mortgage Co-operative Bank at Patna which has a District Branch at Arrah.

THE BIHAR STATE CO-OPERATIVE LAND MORTGAGE BANK, LTD.

As discussed above a branch of the Bihar State Co-operative Land Mortgage Bank, Ltd. has been established at Arrah in 1958. The main object of the bank is to finance long-term loans to its members on the security of immovable properties for the redemption of old dues, i.e., for redemption of loans borrowed on mortgage of lands or other immovable properties for the improvement of lands and purchase of lands for consolidation of holdings for more economic and scientific cultivation. It is not known how far the object is being achieved.

It advances loans to its members for long terms which may be for 15 to 20 years. Repayment of loans is required to be made in annual equal instalments. A member may get an advance of a sum 20 times of his paid-up share capital in the bank. The maximum, however, is Rs. 10,000 per member. Since its inception up to December, 1962 the progress of the bank is as follows*:—

(1) Membership—674.
(2) Share capital—Rs. 29,775.
(3) No. of loan applications received—225.
(4) Amount of loan applied for—Rs. 12,10,000.
(5) Amount of loan disbursed—Rs. 3,12,500.

BANKS

There are a few banks in the district which offer all the modern banking facilities. The district has branches of the State Bank of

* This information was collected from the Manager, Land Mortgage Bank, Arrah.

India, Ltd., The Central Bank of India, Ltd., The Punjab National Bank, Ltd., The Allahabad Bank Ltd. and the Bank of Bihar Ltd.

The State Bank of India has got four branches—

(i) Arrah since 18th March, 1957

(ii) Sasaram since 28th April, 1958

(iii) Dalmianagar since 31st March, 1959

(iv) Buxar since 12th November, 1960

The Central Bank of India, Ltd. has got two branches—

(i) Arrah since 1953

(ii) Sasaram since 1948

The Bank of Bihar, Ltd. has got two branches—

(i) Arrah since 1926.

(ii) Buxar since 1941

The Punjab National Bank, Ltd. has got two branches—

(i) Arrah since 1950

(ii) Dumraon since 1957

The Allahabad Bank, Ltd. has one branch at Buxar which was established in 1941

The banks as usual collect the savings of the public, give loans with reasonable security and undertake the other monetary transactions which are usually done by a bank such as acting as the agent of the customers in collecting and paying cheques, bills, etc. Many of the banks act as the custodians of the valuable documents and jewellery of the customers and issue various forms of easily negotiable credit instruments. Through the banks a big turnover of business is done. *Hundi* business is still continuing and is generally confined to foodgrains, cloth, etc.

General and Life Insurance

Life Insurance is one of the important items of individual's contractual saving. The characteristics of a contractual saving is that the individual concerned agrees either voluntarily or by obligation of service terms to make regular payments to a fund over a period of time, subject to the condition that he would be paid back the amount remitted by him together with or without interest and profits at a later date. The time of repayment, the mode and other details are usually prescribed in rules and regulations governing the fund. In the case of Life Insurance the nature of the responsibility which a company assumes for the individual concerned depends upon the conditions under which the policy has been issued by the company or the authority that does the business. A Life Insurance Policy contemplates insurance against one's life, against a specific contingency and premiums are paid by the insured over

a particular period at an expiry of which the company or the authority discharges its legal obligation to the insured by payment of the stipulated amount with or without bonus

Before the Life Insurance Corporation was formed in 1956, there were a number of well-established Life Insurance Companies like Oriental, New Asiatic, Empire, National, National India, etc., in the country and they had agencies within the district of Shahabad.

The companies worked through a chain of agents, supervisors, etc The agents were, however, more confined to the urban areas The services given by the agents were good and the companies invariably issued a notice of payment due to the insured They also used to be very prompt in settling claims. Nationalisation of insurance business was decided as a policy in 1956 and the Life Insurance Corporation was set up All the companies working on life insurance merged into the Life Insurance Corporation and the insured persons did not have to incur any loss The Life Insurance Corporation took over the assets and the liabilities.

With the Nationalisation of life insurance business, the Life Insurance Corporation of India became the only agency doing life insurance business in India The Corporation was constituted under the Life Insurance Corporation Act of 1956 and was officially established on 1st September, 1956 by the Government of India

From 1st September, 1956 all Life Insurance and Provident Societies whether Indian or of foreign origin were taken over by Life Insurance Corporation The security of the policy money is guaranteed by the Central Government

General Insurance work, however, covering fire, marine, accident, theft, burglary and other insurance business has been left to the concerns in the private sector Most of the former insurance companies and societies which used to transact all insurance business including life, have now switched over entirely to general insurance business

Under the organisational set up of the Corporation the Arrah branch of the Life Insurance Corporation was started on the 1st September, 1956 This branch has been placed under the territorial jurisdiction of the division of Patna in the Eastern Zone The corporation has branch offices in the district at Arrah and Dehri-on Sone The Development centre at Dehri-on-Sone is under the charge of an Assistant Branch Manager Dehri-on-Sone

There are 18 Development Officers in this district distributed as follows –

Arrah town—4.

Jagdishpur—1.

Dumraon—1.

Nawa Nagar—1.

Buxar—1.
Raghunathpur—1.
Tarari—1
Bhabua—1.
Bikramganj—1.
Dehri on-Sone—2.
Mohania—1.
Sasaram—2
Kargahar—1

The Development Officers, who have specified area in their charge, work through appointed agents who are distributed over the villages in their area These village agents work on commission basis calculated on the premium paid on policies

The Branch offices collect proposals along with the first premium instalments either in full or in part and then these proposals are sent to Patna in the Divisional office for decision in respect of acceptance or otherwise of the proposals. The acceptance advices are sent by the Divisional office with copies to the respective agents, field officers and the branch or sub office collect the balance of the first premium and make adjustments and issue official receipts to the policy-holders In case the full first premium is realised along with the proposal, the adjustments are made directly by the Divisional office who also issues the receipts and the policies to the parties

In Shahabad district, Life Insurance business done and the number of agents, etc, since 1957 to 1962 are as follows* —

Year	No of policies	Sum assured	Number of agents.	Development Officers.	No of branch officers
1	2	3	4	5	6
		Rs			
1957	2,112	76,23,569	445	11	1
1958	2,303	83,49,500	529	12	1
1959	4,004	1,88,79,850	629	13	1
1960	4,338	1,51,27,250	369	13	1
1961	4,407	1,55,12,320	430	15	2
1962	4,847	1,63,14,200	449	18	2

So far as General Insurance is concerned which includes the insurance of godown, money in transit, goods in transit, personal accident fire etc the incidence is rather poor excepting motor car insurance which is compulsory General Insurance may be divided into three categories Miscellaneous accidents in which motor cars, trucks, buses, taxis, motor cycles, burglary, etc, are included.

* Supplied by the office of the Divisional Manager, Life Insurance Corporation, Patna

Fire including riot risks, floods, etc., usually covering properties, houses, godowns, workshops, factories, etc., and marine accidents due to which goods may not arrive intact whilst in transit from one centre to another. Motor cars and trucks are insured compulsorily against third party risks. Owners of new cars and some owners of old cars take out comprehensive policies with private insurers and the subsidiaries of the Life Insurance Corporation of India.

There are three subsidiaries of Life Insurance Corporation of India, viz., Oriental Fire, National Fire and Asiatic Government Security which have been merged into one company known as Oriental Fire and General Insurance.

The India Government has introduced an Emergency Risk Insurance from 1st January, 1963 due to Chinese aggression. According to it all the factories and big mills of India will have to be insured.

The Oriental Fire and General Insurance Company does General Insurance business through about 50 agents, and one paid Inspector is posted at Patna. The district is looked after directly by the Divisional Officer at Patna where there is a Divisional Secretary. Other General Insurance Companies have their agents and inspectors in the district. Some of them are New India Company, Ltd., Hindustan General Insurance Company, Ltd., etc.

About fifty Indian and foreign companies are working in this district. An average annual premium of about Rs. 1.25 lakhs to Rs. 2 lakhs by the different parties is realised.

SAVINGS IN THE DISTRICT

Small Savings

The scope for small savings in this district is meagre. In an under-developed country and particularly in view of the many development projects there should be a spirit to save for the future and for this facilities have been provided.

All the banks accept small deposits and the State Government have offered some attractive means of investments for such savings.

The Post Offices have Savings Banks sections to collect small deposits. Many of the rural Post Offices have this facility. The statement below shows the deposits and amount withdrawn in the Post Offices of Shahabad district from 1958-59 to 1961-62.—

Year	Amount deposited in rupees.	Amount withdrawn in rupees.
1958-59	75,23,530.37	68,09,994.31
1959-60	75,26,522.36	74,23,318.32
1960-61	97,10,161.81	82,12,991.47
1961-62	1,10,16,938.46	95,78,052.03

The figures are suggestive. The Postal Savings Banks are popular but the need to withdraw the savings is acute.

Any citizen who can spare even so small an amount of Rs 5 can open a Post Office savings bank account at any Post Office which also does saving banks work. The maximum limit of investment is Rs 15,000 for an individual and Rs 30,000 for a joint account of two individuals. All local authorities and co-operative societies and non-profit making institutions can also open accounts with these banks which are called public accounts.

Interest on individual and joint accounts is allowed at the rate of 3 per cent for the first of Rs 10,000 and 2½ per cent on the balance in excess of Rs 10,000. On public accounts interest is allowed at 2 per cent and interest is calculated for each calendar month. The interest earned on these investments is free of income-tax and super tax.

As an inducement to savings, the Central Government started from 1st April 1960, a scheme of 5 years' interest-free Prize Bonds eligible for participating in drawings quarterly each year till 31st March, 1965. These bonds were of two denominations, one of Rs 5 and the other of Rs 100. The attractive feature of the bonds was that at each draw prizes were available ranging from Rs 50 to Rs 7,500 for five-rupee Bonds and Rs 500 to Rs 25,000 for 100-rupee bonds that win the draw. The investor was repaid for his investment while there was a chance for him to win a prize in addition.

The total amount of sale of the Prize Bonds in the district of Shahabad up to March, 1962 was Rs 90,785. This amount in two years, however, does not show that the Prize Bonds had become very popular.

With the sponsoring of the scheme described below the further sale of these Bonds were closed.

PREMIUM PRIZE BONDS

Premium Prize Bonds are available for sale in denomination of Rs 100 and Rs 5 from 1st January, 1963. They will be sold up to 31st December 1963 and will be repaid with premium of 0.50 nP and Rs 10 for every bond of Rs 5 and Rs 100 respectively, five years after the date of their sale. In addition to the premium, every bond sold is eligible for participating in two draws of prizes to be held in the year 1964. For every crore of rupees of bonds sold of each denomination prizes for different amounts are to be awarded in each of the two draws.

In this district up to March 1963 Premium Prize Bonds of Rs 10,415 were sold.

12-YEAR NATIONAL PLAN SAVINGS CERTIFICATE

This was introduced in 1955-56 by the Central Government. The scheme was however dropped in November, 1962 due to the Chinese aggression. The Government introduced a new savings

scheme in November, 1962 which is called National Defence Certificate.

The following statement will show the amount deposited under 12-Year National Plan Savings Certificate:—

Year	Amount invested.
	Rs.
1958-59	10,92,298
1959-60	9,50,980
1960-61	9,46,675
1961-62	9,34,070

National Defence Certificates

The Government of India have introduced since November, 1962, the National Defence Certificates to enable every citizen to invest his savings for the national defence. In this district from November, 1962 up to March, 1963 National Defence Certificates worth Rs. 1,85,200 were sold. The certificates are in denomination of Rs. 5, Rs. 10, Rs. 50, Rs. 100, Rs. 500, Rs. 1,000, Rs. 5,000 and Rs. 25,000.

On maturity at the end of 12 years, the certificates will be repaid at a premium of 75 per cent of the issue price, yielding a return of 6.25 per cent per annum single or 4.75 per cent per annum compound, a certificate of Rs. 100 would fetch Rs. 175 at the end of 12 years. The interest is free of income-tax.

State Assistance to Industrial Development

With the passing of the Bihar State Aid to Industries Act, 1956, Government can now grant loans and other help to persons in Shahabad district carrying on or intending to start industries within the State. This aid has given a fillip to the growth of small scale and cottage industries in the district. A list of such industries for which loans have been given has been supplied by the Industries Department and is printed later. It may however be mentioned that no spot check has been made by the Gazetteer Revision Branch to see if the industries have been floated or not.

It may be mentioned that under the Bihar State Aid to Industries Act 1956, financial assistance can be given in the following forms:—

(*a*) grant of loan, (*b*) grant of subsidy, (*c*) taking of shares or debentures, (*d*) guarantee of minimum return on the whole or part of the capital of a joint stock company, (*e*) grant on favourable terms of land, raw materials or other property vested in the State, (*f*) supply of machinery on hire purchase terms, (*g*) supply of electrical energy at concessional rates, (*h*) guarantee of a cash credit, overdraft or fixed advance with a bank.

To facilitate quick and easy distribution of loans, power to sanction them has been delegated to various authorities. Loans up to Rs. 5,000 for any single industry are sanctioned by the Project Executive Officer of the Community Development Block or the S. D. O. concerned. The sanctioning authority for loans up to Rs. 10,000 is the Collector or the Additional Collector, and for loans up to Rs. 20,000 in any single case is the Director of Industries, or the Additional Director of Industries. Loans beyond this amount are sanctioned by Government in the Department of Industries and Co-operation. The interest chargeable on these loans up to Rs. 50,000 is 3 per cent and 5 per cent for any amount beyond this amount. The maximum period of repayment is 10 years. The repayment starts after the lapse of two years from the date of the grant of the loan. In the matter of interest special concessions have been allowed to industrial co-operative societies and they pay interest at 2½ per cent only.

Serial no.	Name of Industry	Amount sanctioned.	Date of payment	Purpose for which loan given
1	2	3	4	5
		Rs.		
1	*Charkha Kambal Ashram Private Limited*, Nasriganj	10,000 15,000	26th March 1956 31st March 1958	Kambal manufacturing
2	Bihar Leather and Tanning Company Limited, Nasriganj	10,000 10,000	28th September 1956 20th August 1958	Leather goods and tanning industry.
3	Bihar Printing and Dyeing Works, Arrah	5,000	9th October 1956	Printing Industry
4	Arrah Cold Storage, Arrah	40,000 32,400	31st March 1957 31st March 1958	Cold Storage.
5	Brick Kiln Industry	9,000	23rd May 1957	Brick Kiln Industry.
6	Saw Mill Industry, Arrah	9,900	4th September 1957	Saw Milling
7	Keshri Industries Aharpool, Arrah	24,000	17th September 1958 13th October 1958	Soap, Biscuit manufacturing
8	Buxar Industrial Corporation, Buxar.	10,000 5,000	16th December 1958 30th March 1959	Agricultural implements and domestic utensils
9	Dayal Singh Soap Industry, Buxar	10,000 8,000	13th January 1959 19th May 1959	Soap and Mahua oil manufacturing.
10	Ayurvedic Medicine Industry, Jagdishpur.	5,000	28th July 1960	Manufacture of Ayurvedic medicines
11	*Dhotu Barian Udyog Sahyog Samiti* Buxar	5,000	1960-61	

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS OF THE DISTRICT.

Regarding the old time exports and imports of the district, we have at least two accounts by Francis Buchanan and W. W. Hunter. Francis Buchanan (An Account of the district Shahabad in 1812-13, Patna 1934) mentions that a large number of items were exported and imported.* From this report it appears that rice was a main article for both export and import. Wheat was mainly exported and Shahabad wheat was largely used by European bankers in Bengal and Madras presidencies. Other grains exported included barley, peas, different kinds of pulses, gram, mustard, linseed, cumin and til. Tobacco, sugar, both refined and coarse, molasses, salt, cotton, wool, iron goods, brass vessels were imported. Betel leaf, *Sajimati* (impure carbonated soda), Ganja mahua flowers were imported. He particularly mentions of timber and bamboos being sent out from the vicinity of Rohtas. Woollen and cotton carpets were sent out to Chapra and Muzaffarpur while silk goods from Malda and Tasar silk goods from Daudnagar and gold and silver laces, shoes and the essences were imported from Patna. A large quantity of buffalo *ghee* used to be made within the district and the export was chiefly to Banaras. Some *ghee* was also imported. Buffaloes were exported while oxen were imported.

According to Francis Buchanan the places noted for trade and commerce within the district were Arrah, Dumraon, Rohtas, Tilouthu and Sasaram. Particular mention has been made of Tilouthu in connection with trade in Tasar silk, lac, resin, catechu and stones.

He describes communities at Sasaram, Dumraon, Tilouthu and Arrah exclusively occupied in business.

He has an excellent account as to the conveyance of goods through which export and import used to be carried out.

W. W. Hunter in his Statistical Account of Bengal (1877) mentions about Commerce as follows:—

> "The trade of Shahabad District is chiefly carried on by means of permanent markets in the town and at fairs. The principal articles of export, as returned by the Collector in 1870, are rice, wheat, barley, pulses, gram, oats, linseed, caraway seed, paper, and spices. The imports consist of rice (cleaned by boiling), betel-nut, tobacco, sugar and molasses, salt, pepper, cotton, iron, brass, zinc, copper, lead, tin and betel-leaf or pan. During the year 1874-75 the railway returns show, under the head of imports, 1,322,979 maunds, or 47,249 tons 2 cwts, of grain, and 5,88,970 maunds, or 21,034 tons 13 cwts. of other merchandise. Under the

* An Account of the District of Shahabad in 1812-13 by Francis Buchanan published in 1934, pages 419—429.

head of exports, there were 1,17,723 maunds, or 4,204 tons 7 cwts, of grain, and 3,04,072 maunds, or 10,859 tons, of other merchandise. Of the grain imported 93,284 maunds, or 3,331 tons 11 cwts, was on account of Government, of which 38,019 maunds, or 1,357 tons 16 cwts, were sent across to Chapra in Saran This still leaves an importation of grain on private account of 12,29,695 maunds or 43,917 tons 11 cwts It need not be pointed out that this amount is exceptional, nor that the traffic received a vast stimulus from the reduction of freight under the arrangements entered into with Government, but it should be remembered that these figures, being for the official year, only include the slack end of the great importation in grain which had set in from the previous November, and died out after the first quarter of the year under review Under the heading of 'other merchandise", the principal articles at Arrah, which may be taken as typical of the other stations, were as follows —Imports—coal, 72,604 maunds cotton, 12,286, iron, 6,536, mahua, 5 951 piece goods, 9,181, salt, 65,945, seeds, 1 745, timber 5,123, tobacco 6,648, railway property, 7,394 miscellaneous goods 32,865, total, 2,26,281 maunds, or 8 283 tons Export—gunny bags, 5,408 maunds hides and horns, 1,388, indigo, 1,177, molasses 6,737, salt, 3 961, seeds, 8,431, piece-goods, 1,533 railway property 5 553, sugar, 1,467, timber, 4 270, melted butter and oil, 1,809 miscellaneous goods, 17 452 total 58,284 maunds or 21,336 tons Of these, it may be presumed that coal iron and timber were destined, for the most part for use on the canals The following figures, compiled from the registration returns at Sahibganj show the Ganges borne traffic of the District during a corresponding twelve months In 1874 there were registered at Sahibganj, as coming from Shahabad 28,064 maunds of wheat, and 25,278 maunds of pulses and gram In the same year nothing was registered as going to Shahabad

"The local trade has been thus described by Mr Eyre —The town of Nasriganj on the Son we owes its commercial prosperity to its trade in timber, bamboos, and rope-fibre, the products of the Kaimur and Palamau Jungles In 1872-73, 39,00,000 bamboos, valued at £ 3,900, were floated on rafts down the Son for Nasriganj and Patna These rafts contained also rope to the value of £ 200 and a considerable quantity of timber Lime which is manufactured at the kilns along the eastern base of the plateau, is not only used

on the canal works, but is also largely exported to Tirhut and Patna In 1872-1873, 3,50 000 maunds or 1,786 tons, valued at £ 4,000, were sent down the Son Gram oil seeds, and cotton are imported from Chutia Nagpur Pack-bullocks are used, which cross the Son at Bandu ghat and travel along the left bank of the river to Sasaram, Dehri, Nasriganj, etc It is computed that during the cold and dry seasons one hundred bullocks cross the Son every day The *hara* nut, used in dyeing, is exported to Patna and Benares The annual amount is estimated at 8 000 maunds, or 280 tons, worth £ 1,200 Finally, there is at Sasaram a large trade in Manchester piece-goods The merchants say that they annually import cloth to the value of £ 11,150, of which £ 7 400 worth is consumed locally, and £ 3,750 is again exported The Grand Trunk Road enters Shahabad at Dehri, and, after passing Sasseram and Jahanabad, leaves the District at Naubatpur Piece goods, grain of all kinds, sugar, betel. Forest products, melted butter are carried along this road, but I have been able to obtain no estimate of the extent of the trade "*

TRADE NOW.

The last *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) mentioned that principal exports were gram and pulses, refined and unrefined sugar, *gur* and molasses and linseed Sugar was largely exported to Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh and linseed to Calcutta The principal exports were coal, salt cotton goods and kerosene oil There was a decline in the imports of rice and in the exports of wheat, which may be attributed to the extension of rice cultivation owing to canal irrigation and to the contraction of the area under wheat †

The picture of the present exports and imports (1963) could be had by study of the statistics at the principal railway stations of the district and study of the markets The result of the market study may not be accurate as the merchants were not keen to show their registers and any study of the market would have had to be spread over a pretty long time Statistics of the turnover of the different commodities through roadways are not maintained by any particular authority For our purposes it is considered that the railway statistics of Arrah Railway Station and the stations on Arrah Sasaram Light Railway will be sufficient indicators

The main commodities exported from Arrah Railway Station are rice, paddy, *gur* mango stone-chips and the main imports are cloth, engineering goods, medicine, etc The main places where

* W W Hunter's '*A Statistical Account of Bengal, Volume VII*' (Gaya and Shahabad) published in 1877 pages 263-64

† From the *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), pages 111-112

commodities are sent are Patna, Bhagalpur, Calcutta, etc. The main places from where commodities come to Arrah are Calcutta, Bhagalpur, Muzaffarpur, Kanpur, Hapur, Bombay, etc.

From Arrah Railway Station separate figures for the commodities were not readily available. The staff at Arrah Railway Station, however, gave the total maundages handled as export and import for the year 1960-62. The figures are as follows.—

		Export in maunds	Import in maunds
January	1960	1,352	4,281
	1961	1,292	4,237
	1962	1,105	3,947
February	1960	520	3,337
	1961	1,398	5,129
	1962	1,595	7,819
March	1960	770	3,525
	1961	775	5,295
	1962	865	4,986
April	1960	505	3,684
	1961	[illegible]50	5,434
	1962	455	5,339
May	1960	1,738	4135
	1961	3 528	5,252
	1962	3,987	5,170
June	1960	921	4,233
	1961	1 468	4,763
	1962	1,339	4,686
July	1960	386	4,034
	1961	1 099	4,132
	1962	990	3 979
August	1960	318	3,575
	1961	1,073	4,733
	1962	998	4,673
September	1960	367	3,565
	1961	388	3,710
	1962	399	3,611
October	1960	702	4,746
	1961	902	8,317
	1962	802	8,517
November	1960	776	4,364
	1961	775	4,265
	1962	865	4,635
December	1960	903	4,747
	1961	Not available	Not available
	1962	Ditto	Ditto

Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway runs through a tract which has very fertile lands with irrigation facilities. Rice is the main produce of this area. The livestock population is remarkably dense.

The Light Railway runs parallel to a first class road which is also well served by carrier trucks and passenger buses. The railway line is met by several roads the principal of which are from Garh Nokha and Nasriganj There used to be a sugar mill at Bikramganj some years back. An extensive quantity of sugarcane is also grown in this area. There is a large sugar factory at Dalmianagar. Dalmianagar has also several factories, namely, cement, paper etc. There are several rice mills in the area served by Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway

On investigation from the Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway authorities it was ascertained that they could readily give the over-all figures in quintals of the different commodities handled at the sixteen railway stations on this Light Railway. The more important of these sixteen stations handling goods are Arrah, Hasanbazar, Bikramganj, Garh Nokha and Sasaram Commodities like ballast, grain, rice and paddy are exported to Arrah, Dinapur, Patna, Bhagalpur, Chapra, etc Commodities like manures and timber are imported from Sindri, Jogbani, etc

The figures supplied by the District Traffic Superintendent for the years 1959-60 to 1962-63 (up to March) are as follows —

——	Coal weight in quintals	Ballast weight in quintals.	Grains and pulses weight in quintals	Rice and pulses weight in quintals	Manure weight in quintals	Timber weight in quintals.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
			1959-60.			
April, 1959 ..	5,009	4,567	623	16,950	..	1,075
May, 1959 ..	9,520	7,740	2,520	55,520	580	3,410
June, 1959 ..	2,890	2,601	396	20,136	1,198	1,064
July, 1959 ..	5,225	3,540	172	22,365	5,181	131
August, 1959	3,143	377	455	9,353	5,520	261
September, 1959	7 599	1,444	101	9,158	1,381	2,404
October, 1959	3,470	3,340	100	7,370	4,760	720
November, 1959	8,387	5,632	108	10,391	347	[illegible]
December, 1959	1,881	396	153	17,673	..	408
January, 1960	2,784	6,659	146	34,703	425	15,589
February, 1960	3,790	4,430	75	34,580	1,080	970
March, 1960 .	2,512	5,815	37	22,600	437	..

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
			1960-61.			
April, 1960	3 920	790	.	18,060	1,280	2,090
May, 1960	9,611	4,031	145	24,915	2,953	112
June, 1960	3,955	4,137	194	17,825	4,793	500
July, 1960	1,891	1,693	443	8,619	860	1,972
August, 1960	2,152	3,909	123	6,272	2,373	1,228
September, 1960	2,214	3,140	682	5,437	4,266	2,428
October, 1960	2,798	3,228	463	2,840	10,509	1,066
November, 1960	3,156	580	69	3,179	3,412	2,187
December, 1960	2,843	380	65	9,995	2,334	2,433
January, 1961	2,257	1,315	350	19,043	424	212
February, 1961	2,275	5,165	213	20,514	..	694
March, 1961	1,955	3,987	158	23,834	3,822	2,146
			1961-62.			
April, 1961	2,272	3,383	831	2,82,871	6,400	1,583
May, 1961	1,975	3,110	436	23,498	9,633	2,178
June, 1961	2,550	11	542	18,153	4,520	1,019
July 1961	2,343	2,892	3,338	15,469	5,928	762
August, 1961	2,374		2,021	16,334	7,204	1,732
September, 1961	1,886	.	562	13,193	4,719	3,046
October, 1961	1,810	1,034	299	8,238	3,648	1,696
November, 1961	1,828	5,148	223	11,827	8,636	868
December, 1961	1,865	2,350	78	13,714	3,151	535
January, 1962	2,088	5,200	234	20,471	3,060	326
February, 1962	1,893	3,998	605	28,079	..	853
March, 1962	2,458	7 598	620	23,626	2,654	236
			1962-63.			
April, 1962	2,384	4,751	1,090	31,032	6,940	82
May, 1962	2,164	2,356	902	10,939	11,620	368
June, 1962	2,578	4,109	297	20,507	6,600	496
July, 1962	2,995	5,084	722	20,209	7,152	216
August, 1962	2,379	4,791	451	7,263	19,243	1,391
September, 1962	2,097	..	310	10,394	15,287	1,268
October, 1962	4,780	7,900	321	4,895	16,457	2,953
November, 1962	2,090	881	151	2,422	8,892	1,306
December, 1962	2,564	3,808	48	7,196	2,220	1,740
January, 1963	4,186	5,530	281	16,184	211	725
February, 1963	2,110	1,690	426	18,074	8,484	1,297
March, 1963	3,043	3,766	94	23,407	926	702

Taking the district as a whole the statement below indicates the important commodities and the chief places from where they are imported and the main destination of export:—

(1)

Name of commodities that come into the district.	From where imported
Cotton piece goods ..	Kanpur, Ahmedabad, Bombay, Calcutta, Varanasi, Bhagalpur, Muzaffarpur, etc.
Coal	Raniganj, Giridih and Jharia Coalfield areas.
Salt	Calcutta, Tuticorin.
Iron and Steel	Calcutta, Tatanagar, Kulti.
Shoes	Kanpur, Agra, Delhi and Calcutta.
Kerosene oil and petrol .	Budge Budge
Cotton	Kanpur, Ballia, Varanasi.

(2)

Name of commodities that go out of the district.	From where exported.	Destination of export.
Cement	Banjari and Dehri	Calcutta, Patna, Varanasi, places in Madhya Pradesh, Delhi, etc.
Rice	Buxar, Sasaram, Bhabua, Arrah	Patna, Varanasi, Ballia, Calcutta, Assam, etc.
Linseed	Buxar, Bihea, Arrah, Bhabua, Sasaram.	Calcutta, Kanpur, Varanasi.
Lime	Dehri . ..	Calcutta, Gaya and Varanasi.
Fish	Buxar .	Calcutta, Asansol, etc.

REGULATED MARKET SYSTEM IN THE DISTRICT OF SHAHABAD.*

The regulation of wholesale sale and purchase in the markets of Shahabad has been taken up under the Bihar Agricultural Produce Market Act, 1960 (Bihar Act XVI of 1960). The Act has the major objective of (i) securing the best possible price to which the agriculturist is entitled after defraying the legitimate expenses of marketing and after taking into account the price that could be realised for the same quality of the produce in the consuming markets, (ii) seeing that the intermediaries standing in between the agriculturist (taking his produce to the market) and the purchaser or the latter himself do not gain on unfair advantage over the agriculturist, (iii) establishing equity in the bargaining power between the agriculturist and the purchaser, permitting mutual confidence, preventing malpractices and giving fair deal to the

* Contributed by the Deputy Director of Agriculture (Marketing), Bihar in April, 1963.

farmers. The important wholesale markets in the district are Sasaram, Buxar, Arrah, Nokha, Mohania, Behia and Dehri. It is proposed to bring all these markets under the purview of regulation according to a phased programme. To start with the work has been taken up in the markets of Sasaram and Buxar. Accordingly one Market Secretary, who is a gazetted officer in Junior Class II of Bihar Agricultural Service and another, a non-gazetted Market Secretary in the scale of Rs. 150 to Rs 350, have been posted at Sasaram and Buxar respectively to take necessary steps for necessary enforcement of the Act in the two markets.

As required under sub-section (1) of section 3 of the Act the State Government have already issued necessary notification as per no. 21697-agri., dated the 13th December, 1962, declaring its intention to regulate sale and purchase of paddy, rice, wheat, gram, *khesari, masur* and linseed in the area covered by Sasaram Police-Station within Sasaram Subdivision and paddy, rice, wheat, *khesari*, rape and mustard seed and linseed in the area covered by Buxar and Itarhi Police-Stations within Buxar subdivision of the district and invited suggestions and objections, if any, from the persons likely to be affected thereby by 20th February, 1962. After considering the suggestions and objections the final notification under section 4 of the Act declaring the respective market areas in respect of the commodities specified will be issued.

The Act provides for the formation of a Market Committee for each of the market to be regulated It will be a corporate body charged with the management and administration of the market concerned Each Market Committee will consist of 15 members representing the following interests:--

Agriculturists	7
Trader	3
Co operative Marketing Society .	2
Co-operative Bank	1
Government representative .. .	1
Gram Panchayat or Municipal representative	1
TOTAL ..	15

Thus the interests of the agriculturist will predominate in the Market Committee.

The first Market Committee is to be nominated by the Government appointing one amongst the members nominated as Chairman and another from them as Vice-Chairman. It will remain in office for one year. The necessary notification under sections 6 and 8 of the Act declaring the formation of the 1st Market

Committees in respect of the two markets is likely to be issued almost simultaneously with the issue of notification under section 4 noted above.

The second and subsequent Market Committee will be an elected body with its term of office for three years. It will elect one of its members as Chairman and another as Vice-Chairman.

The Chairman shall be the controlling and supervising officer of the Market Committee and all officers and servants of the committee shall be subject to his control. The Secretary, subject to the control of the Chairman, will be the Chief Executive Officer of the Market Committee and shall be responsible for ensuring proper and efficient working of the market.

In accordance with the provisions made under the Act and the rules framed thereunder the Market Committee will issue licenses to the traders, commission agents, brokers, weighmen, measurers, surveyors, warehousemen and other persons including persons or firms engaged in the processing and pressing of agriculture produce brought under regulation in the market and will collect license fees from the licensees at most reasonable rates as specified under the rules. Sales by open auction, abolition of unauthorised trade allowances and arbitrary deduction in weights, prohibition of taking samples free of cost, fixation of marketing expenses at reasonable levels and prompt payment of sale-proceeds to the producer-sellers together with the sale slips detailing the accounts of transactions are some of the statutory provisions made under the Bihar Agricultural Produce Market Act, 1960 Effective provisions have also been made in the Act for the prompt settlement of disputes between the buyers and sellers by the disputes sub-committee, for the collection, compilation and dessimination of market news such as prices, market arrivals and despatches of agricultural commodities. The Market Committee will also provide amenities like sheds, rest houses, drinking water, etc , to the users of the market.

The Market Committee shall levy and collect market fees on agricultural produce brought in the market area on *ad valorem* basis at a nominal rate of 25 nP per Rs. 100 worth of the agricultural produce and the same will be realised from the buyer but will be recoverable from the seller as a market charge.

All money received by the Market Committee by way of license fee and market fee shall be paid into Market Committee Fund and all expenditure incurred by the committee under or for the purpose of the Act shall be defrayed out of the said fund. Any surplus remaining with the Market Committee at the close of the year, after such expenditure shall be credited to its permanent fund of the committee which will be used only towards incurring the expenses of a permanent nature such as the construction of buildings, acquisition or purchase of sites or for such other purpose.

So far as extending the regulative measures under the Act in the remaining wholesale markets of Nokha, Arrah, Mohania, Behia and Dehri is concerned, their preliminary survey has already been started with the aim of getting them under the orbit of regulation by the end of the Third Five-Year Plan. In order to expedite the progress in that direction one non-gazetted market Secretary has already been posted at Dehri and the posting at the remaining markets is expected to be made in near future.

The number of *mandies* and important marketing centres of the district is 28. A list of the wholesale markets of Shahabad district with indication of approximate number of wholesalers (dealing in agricultural produce) operating in each of them is given below.—

Serial no.	Subdivision.	Police Station.	Name of the Wholesale Market.	Approximate number of wholesalers.
1	2	3	4	5
1	Arrah Sadar	Arrah	Arrah	31
2	Ditto	Bihea	Bihea	20
3	Ditto	Piro	Hasan Bazar	13
4	Ditto	Do	Piro	4
5	Buxar	Buxar	Buxar	30
6	Ditto	Dumraon	Bhojpur	5
7	Ditto	Buxar	Chausa	9
8	Ditto	Rajpur	Dhansoi	4
9	Ditto	Dumraon	Dumraon	11
10	Ditto	Brahmpur	Raghunathpur	4
11	Sasaram	Bikramganj	Bikramganj	6
12	Ditto	Chenari	Chenari	..
13	Ditto	Dehri	Dehri ..	11
14	Ditto	Sasaram	Nokha	14
15	Ditto	Ditto	Sasaram	10
16	Ditto	Ditto	Tilouthu	3
17	Bhabua	Bhabua	Bhabua	..
18	Ditto	Ditto	Hatta	2
19	Buxar	Itarhi	Itarhi	10
20	Arrah	Jagdishpur	Jagdishpur	3
21	Bhabua	Durgawati	Karamnasa	8
22	Ditto		Kudra	4
23	Ditto	Mohania	Mohania	17
24	Sasaram	Nasriganj	Nasriganj	5
25	Ditto	Dinara	Natwar	14
26	..	..	Noaon	2
27	Sasaram	Nokha	Sanjhauli	8
28	Ditto	Daweth	Surajpura	1

MARKETS.

A brief discussion of some of the important markets at **Bihea**, Arrah and Buxar will be of interest in this connection

Bihea is at a distance of 14 miles from Arrah and is served by Eastern Railway and a good road. Bihea is a very important grain market The following are the approximate figures for the annual arrivals and despatches of some of the important commodities at Bihea Market —

*Annual arrivals.**

	Commodity.	In maunds.	Places from where imported	Places where exported
1	Rice ..	1,25,000	Local supply	Patna Chapra, Ballia and Bhagalpur
2	Linseed	6 400	Local supply and Uttar Pradesh	Places within the district
3	Gram	5,000	Local supply	Patna, Dinapur and places within the district
4	*Masur*.	2,500	Ditto	Ditto.
5	Barley	1,500	Ditto	Uttar Pradesh, Chapra and Jhajha side.
6	Mustard oil	15,000	Local supply, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Rajasthan	Places within the district.
7	*Khesari*	6,000	Local supply	Patna side and places within the district
8	*Rahar* ..	2,000	Ditto	Ditto.
9	Wheat .	1,500	Ditto	Places within the district.
10	Maize ..	2,500	Naugachhia and Colgong	Ditto.
11	*Gur*	5,000	Local supply	Patna, Chapra, Ballia.
12	Paddy	1,000	Local supply and Uttar Pradesh.	Places within the district
13	Oil cakes (Linseed and mustard oil).	22,000	Local supply and Uttar Pradesh.	Ditto.
14	*Ata* ..	6,000	Patna and Uttar Pradesh.	Ditto

* Sources of Information —Deputy Director of Agriculture (Marketing), Bihar.

Arrah town, the district headquarters, has two important market areas at Muhalla Nawada and Chauk Bazar. Arrah is well served by railways, roadways and waterways.

The following table will show the average annual arrivals of principal commodities and their import and export* —

Arrah-Nawada.

Commodity.	Annual arrival In quintals	Places from where imported	Places where exported
Paddy ..	18,600	Bihta and local supply	Chapra, Patna.
Rice ..	18,600	Ballia local supply	Places within the district
Wheat	700	Local supply	Ditto.
Gram	3,700	Ditto	Ditto.
Barley	200	Ditto	Ditto.
Masoor .	3,700	Ditto	Dinapur, Patna.
Khesari	18,600	Ditto	Ditto
Arhar	1,500	Ditto	Places within the district.
Linseed ..	9,300	Ditto	Dinapur, Patna
Gur ..	400	Ditto	Places within the district.

Arrah Chauk Bazar.

Commodity.	Annual arrival In quintals	Places from where imported	Places where exported
Rice	1,50,000	Local supply	Bhagalpur, Hazaribagh, Coalfield areas, Monghyr.
Wheat .	18,600	Ditto	Places within the district
Gram .	3,700	Ditto	Ditto.
Barley	200	Ditto	Ditto.
Masoor .	700	Ditto	Places within the district. Patna and Calcutta
Khesari ..	700	Ditto	Places within the district.
Linseed .	400	Ditto	Ditto.
Maize	400	Ditto	Ditto.
Jawar .	700	Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.	Ditto
Ata ..	8,400	Patna	Ditto.
Sugar ..	26,900	Bihta and Dalmianagar	Ditto.

Buxar is a subdivisional town and an important trade centre. It is served by railways, roadways and waterways. It is located just on the bank of the river Ganga Ballia a district town of Uttar Pradesh, is just on the other side of the river Ganga and is very close to this

* Sources of information.—*Marketing Directory, published in* 1960 by the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Marketing, Bihar.

town. Its hinterland is also very rich in production of grains, vegetables and fish. Fish is obtained from the river and the local water pools and sent to Calcutta, Patna and other places daily. The Buxar Central Jail manufactures *newar*, *duries*, carpets, etc, and they are sent to various places both within and outside the State. The main trade of the town is grain, vegetables, fish and manufactured goods of Jail industry. Buxar is also a pilgrim centre and some famous *melas* are held in Buxar subdivision.

The following table will show the average annual arrivals of principal commodities and their export and import from Buxar* —

—	Commodities.	Annual arrivals In quintals	Places from where imported	Places where exported.
1	2	3	4	5
Buxar	*Paddy*	74,600	Local supply	Ballia, Patna, Varanasi.
	Rice	37,300	Ditto	Ditto
	Wheat	29,000	Ballia	Within the district
	Gram	9,300	Local supply	
	Arhar	3,700	Ditto	Calcutta, Patna and Dinapur.
	Khesari	37,300	Ditto	Assam, Kerala, West Bengal.
	Masoor	18,600	Ditto	Patna, Fatuha, Uttar Pradesh, Calcutta, etc.
	Linseed	30,000	Ballia and local supply.	Calcutta, Patna, etc
	Mustard seed.	19,000	Ditto	Ditto.
	Onion	750	Local supply	Calcutta, Patna.
	Fish	3,700	Ditto	Calcutta, Patna and places within the district

The following are the important trading centres and commodities dealt in the district:—

(1) Arrah—Cereal and pulses, vegetables, spices, oilseeds and oils, oilcakes, rice, Animal Husbandry produces, etc.

(2) Bihea—Cereals and pulses, spices, oilseeds, vegetables, *gur*, etc.

(3) Piro—Cereals and pulses, spices, oilseeds, vegetables, *gur*, etc.

* Sources of information.—*Marketing Directory, Shahabad* (1960), published by the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Marketing, Bihar.

(4) Hasan *bazar*—Cereals and pulses, spices, oilseeds, vegetables, *gur*, etc.

(5) Buxar—Cereals and pulses, spices, oilseeds, oils, vegetables, *ghee*, milk, fish, meat, etc.

(6) Chausa—Cereals and pulses, oils, oilseeds, etc

(7) Dumraon—Cereals and pulses, oilseeds, oil, livestock and animal husbandry products, *gur*, etc.

(8) Bhojpur—Cereals and pulses, Vegetables, etc

(9) Etarhi—Cereals and pulses, vegetables, etc.

(10) Sasaram—Cereals and pulses, vegetables, oil, oilseeds, *ghee*, *gur*, sugar, fish, meat, etc.

(11) Takia—Cereals and pulses, etc

(12) Dehri—Cereals and pulses, vegetables, fish *gur*, sugar, meat, etc.

(13) Kudra—Cereals and pulses, vegetables fish, oils, oilseeds, etc

(14) Chenari—Cereals and pulses, *ghee*, *hare* and *bahera*, etc.

(15) Natwar—Rice, cereals and pulses, etc

(16) Nokha—Paddy, rice and oils, etc.

(17) Bikramganj—Cereals and pulses, oil, vegetables, etc.

(18) Bhabua—Cereals and pulses, oil, oilseeds, fish, meat, etc.

(19) Mohania—Cereals, oil, meat, vegetables, etc

(20) Durgawati—Cereals and oilseeds, etc

(21) Karmnasa—Cereals, etc.

Centres of wholesale business and mandis.

Regarding centres of trade, the last District Gazetteer mentioned that the internal trade of the district was centred at the bi-weekly markets held in the large villages Here the villagers and smaller *mahajans* brought their surplus grains on pack bullocks and purchased their daily necessities, such as salt, cloth and oil The grain was despatched thence in carts to the larger centres of trade on the railway, the Ganges or the Son Canals, such as Arrah, Dumraon, Buxar and Chausa* Railway and Waterways were the only main trade routes at that time. Carrier trucks were not in use at that time for the transport of goods

Some of the principal commodities of wholesale business at the moment are paddy, rice, cereals, sugarcane, cloth, mustard oil, *ghee*, spices and vegetables Many retail dealers of other districts like Saran, Ballia, Ghazipur, Varanasi, Patna have a direct contact with

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* by L. S. S. O. Malley (1960), revised by J. F W James (1924), page 112.

wholesale dealers of the district. The petty and less resourceful dealers of the district have their dealings with the local wholesale merchants. The Sadar subdivision is the chief paddy and sugarcane producing area in the district. The main produce of the district is rice which is generally sent to Patna, Varanasi and other places in Uttar Pradesh, Calcutta, etc.

The chief centres of wholesale business as mentioned elsewhere are Arrah, Bihea, Buxar. Sasaram, Bhabua, Dalmianagar and Garh Nokha. Each of them is a very busy centre for wholesale business.

The main retail marketing centres in the district are at Arrah, Buxar, Sasaram, Dalmianagar, Bhabua, Dumraon, Bihea, Bikramganj and Mohania. At these places retail shops for the commodities locally consumed are found. Retail shops of some particular articles like radio receiving sets, sewing machines, cycles, etc., are to be found only in the urban areas like Arrah, Sasaram, Buxar, Bhabua and Dehri-on-Sone.

It is reported by the Labour Department that there are about (1963) 6,800 retail dealers and about 311 wholesale dealers at Arrah, Sasaram, Buxar and Bhabua, etc. Retail trading is done in all kinds of commodities like foodgrains cloth, silk, sugar, *kirana* goods, etc

Retail sales are generally on cash basis. Among retail trade shops in the district the grocery group is the most important. It has the largest number of shops Cereals and pulses, spices, jaggery, oil, *ghee*, tea, coffee, cigarettes, indigenous drugs, dry fruits, tinned goods, food stuff, *chura* (fried rice), and a number of other miscellaneous articles are sold in these shops. The value of stock in trade of individual shops varies widely, i.e., from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 10,000 The retail shop-keepers get their stock from the local wholesale dealers either on cash or credit and there is a good margin of profit. The local wholesalers in their turn obtain the same from various manufacturing centres particularly from bigger places within Bihar or cities like Calcutta, Bombay, Lucknow, Delhi, Varanasi, Kanpur, etc.

Next in importance to groceries comes the sweetmeat and other shops that sell cooked food. There are a large number of them in all the urban areas, large villages and *hats* and fairs. There is a very brisk trade in these shops at the time of religious festivals. The stock in trade of this type of shops varies from Rs. 300 to Rs. 3,000 or more The number of people having a daily meal at such eating houses is definitely on the increase.

There are a very large number of *Pan, biri* and cigarette shops in the urban areas, large villages, *hats* and *melas*. They have a large turnover in the district. Sale is normally on cash basis. Most of the establishments are one man's establishments. There are separate wholesale dealers for *Pan*, cigarettes and *biris*.

All the towns, large villages and every *hat* and *mela* have shops selling cotton and woollen goods, silk and cotton pieces, *sarees*, *dhoties*, towels and various kinds of hosiery. They also sell handloom and powerloom products. The capital of these shops is usually large and may even near a lakh of rupees (in Arrah). Sales usually shoot up during festivals and in the months when a large number of marriages take place.

Shops dealing in footwear and other leather goods of Arrah and other urban areas have a large sale and the capital invested will go up to rupees ten thousand.

Shop-keepers under the group of chemists and druggists sell chemicals of various kinds, foreign and indigenous drugs, medicines and surgical instruments A large part of the chemicals, drugs and medicines stocked is brought mainly from Patna, Varanasi, Calcutta, Bombay, etc.

Hawkers.

Like pedlars in rural areas, their counterpart in urban areas, viz., hawkers, play an important role in the retail trade of the district. There is not, however, much scope for them. But they continue to be prominent in semi-urban areas. They sell comparatively cheaper articles usually in everyday uses, viz., fruits, sweetmeats, snacks, sugarcane juice, cheap utensils, newspapers, toys and a number of other articles of daily use including food-stuff. They are found to be doing their business near the railway stations, bus stands and cinemas. In towns hawkers from nearby areas come to the *bazar* to sell their goods.

Grain Mandi.

Among the grain *mandis*, the *mandi* at Bihea was particularly studied. This is one of the largest grain markets, within the district. The market is well located having both road and railway facility. Commodities are brought by trucks, bullock-carts and pack ponies. There are about 30 big godowns of *Arhatias* (stockists and commission agents). The *Arhatias* usually charge a commission of Re. 1 from the seller and 50 nP. from the buyer for every Rs. 100 worth of cereals. The *Arhatia* will also charge a weighing charge, *Dharmada* and *Dhalta* charges. The rate of weighmen charge is normally 6 nP. per bag of 2½ maunds and is payable by the purchaser. The rate of *Dharmada* is not fixed. It is a small amount realised and the collected money usually goes to a religious trust or a *gochala* or a public institution. *Dhalta* charges are levied on commodities like *ghee* or oil which has to be poured out from one receptacle to another. There is not much transaction involving *Dhalta* charges. In *gur* transaction weighman takes one seer of *gur* and 6 nP. for one cart-load of 8 to 10 maunds of *gur*.

Bihea market has a large transaction of paddy, rice, wheat, *khesari* and *gur*.

The pattern of the other *mandis* is almost the same as the *mandi* at Bihea. The charges, however, vary from one *mandi* to another to some extent.

Vegetable Markets at Arrah.

Among the vegetable markets, the market at Arrah proper was particularly studied. This is one of the largest vegetable markets within the district. The market is well located having both road and railway facility. Vegetables are brought by trucks, bullock carts and pack ponies. There are about 40 *Arhatias* (commission agents) in the market. The *Arhatias* usually charge a commission of 3 nP. from the seller for every five seers of green vegetables like spinach, cucurbita, brinjals, etc Besides a commission of 6 nP. is also charged from the seller for a rupee worth of non-green vegetables such as jack-fruit, potato, etc.

Daily arrivals of commodity in maunds.	Places from where imported.	Places where exported.
1. Potato (80)	Supply from within the district	Places within the district.
2. Ladies finger (60)	Ditto ..	Places within the district and Patna.
3. Jack fruit (100)	Monghyr and Ballia	Places within the district. Supply only in season.
4. Brinjal (30)	Supply from within the district.	Patna, Dinapur and places within the district.
5. Pumpkin (50) .. .	Ditto ..	Patna, Dinapur and local.
6. Onion (200)	Ditto ..	Chapra, Calcutta, Patna, Dinapur. Places within the district.
7. Cucurbita (200)	Ditto ..	Chapra, Patna, Dinapur, etc.
8. Spinach and other perishable green vegetables	Ditto ..	..

Fish Market at Arrah.

Among the fish markets, the market at Arrah proper was particularly studied. The market is located in the heart of the town having both railway and road facility. Fish are generally brought by head load, truck, rail and cart-load. The market is managed by the contractor. He charges 2 annas per basket by the seller. There are about 50 seats for the sellers. The source of supply are the rivers Ganga and Sone and a number of tanks within the district. The important fish of this area are *katla*, *rohu*, *hilsa*, *garai*, *kabai*,

pothia, jhingwa, bacha, boari, manguri, etc. The rate of fish ranges from Re. 1 to Rs. 3. The turnover of fish is about 50 maunds daily in this market. The quantity of fish that usually comes daily is not sufficient for local consumption. Very little of sanitary arrangements were seen. There is an abundance of flies. Stale fish is also freely sold.

Arrah also exports some quantity of fish to Dinapur and Patna.

HATS.

Hats are held once or twice a week in a number of villages. They are primary markets for grains and other village produce like grains, vegetables, etc., and clearing markets for a lot of consumers' goods for the villagers like soap, cloth, etc. Generally about 1,000 to 1,500 people from the neighbouring villages congregate at the *hats* to sell and purchase commodities. Some of the *hats* which serve a larger population have a few permanent groceries or sweet-meat shops. Grain merchants come to the *hats* and purchase grains in large quantity. The chief modes of conveyance for carrying goods to the *hats* are the bullock-carts, ponies, pack-bullocks and head-load. Now-a-days carrier trucks also carry goods away from the *hats*.

There are several permanent shops in the *hats* which sell commodities like salt, mustard oil, kerosene oil, *ghee,* pulses, cloth, etc. Big villages also have such shops. The *hats* and the big villages have now a number of *pan-biri* shops, itinerant stalls for selling tea, snacks and sweets. The *hats* play a very important role in the village economy. The *hats* in this district also play the role of a meeting place and social exchanges of ideas but not to the extent they serve the purpose in Chotanagpur or in the Santal Parganas.

Salesmen of various products from vegetable oils to medicines, cosmetics and cigarettes have started utilising the *hats* for propaganda and publicity for their articles. Some of the important *hats* are at Jagdishpur, Piro, Bihea, Shahpurpatti, etc. The scope for further development is immense.

FAIRS AND MELAS.

There are a large number of fairs held throughout the year but more important fairs are held at Brahampur (Brahpur), Buxar, Niazipur, Sirpalpur, Ekawana, Karaghar, Bhaluni, Nuaon, Kuriachak, Kulharia, Sasaram and Jaro.

Brahampur Mela.—This *mela* is held at Brahampur village which is at a distance of two miles from Raghunathpur Railway Station. This fair is important for a very large transaction in cattle. It is held twice in a year, viz., on the occasion of *Falgun Shivaratri* and *Baisakh Shivaratri* and lasts for ten to fifteen days. There is a Shiva temple where people come to offer *puja.* About 20,000 people congregate at Brahampur on such occasions.

Buxar Mela.—Three seasonal *melas* are held at Buxar called *Khichri, Amawas* and *Satwant*. There are generally bathing festivals and are usually attended by about four to six thousand people. The principal articles for sale are piece-goods, brassware, earthenware, other miscellaneous goods and sweets. A large number of people from the other side of Ganga river (Uttar Pradesh) visit these *melas*.

Niazipur Mela.—It is held at Niazipur, P.-S. Dumraon, six miles north of Dumraon Railway Station on the occasion of *Ganga ashnan* in the month of *Kartic*. It is attended by about four thousand people.

Sirpalpur Mela.—It is held at Sirpalpur, P.-S. Brahara in Sadar subdivision twice a year on the occasion of *Basant Panchmi* and *Ram Navmi*. It is a small cattle fair in the district. The turnover of other goods is also considerable.

Ekawana Mela.—It is held at Ekawana, P.-S. Sahar in Sadar subdivision in the month of *Jeth* and *Asarh*. Besides cattle, there is a good clearance of other commodities.

Karaghar Mela.—It is one of the most important cattle fairs in the district which fetches a good revenue to the State. It is held at Karaghar, P. S. Karaghar in Sasaram subdivision thrice in a year, viz., *Phalgun, Baisakh* and *Jeth*. It lasts for more than a week. There is a large turnover of all kinds of commodities necessary for an ordinary household.

Bhaluni Mela.—It is held at Bhaluni, Police-Station Dinara in Sasaram subdivision twice in a year. There is a temple of *Jakhani Bhawani* at Bhaluni which attracts a large number of devotees. It is usually attended by about 5,000 people and lasts for about a month.

Nuaon Mela.—It is held at Nuaon village, Police-Station Ramgarh in Bhabua subdivision. It is held four times in a year, namely, in the months of *Phalgun, Baisakh, Jeth* and *Kartic*. It lasts for more than a week on each of these occasions.

Kuriachak Mela.—It is held at Kuriachak, Police-Station Chainpur in Bhabua subdivision in the months of *Phalgun, Baisakh, Jeth* and *Kartic*. The *mela* is known as Sheo Shankar *mela* and there is a temple of Shiva in that village. It is one of the largest *melas* in the district. It lasts for more than a week. It is essentially a religious *mela*.

Kulharia Mela.—This fair is held annually on the occasion of *Chait Ram Navmi* at Kulharia, police-station Durgawati in Bhabua subdivision. The main attraction is the temple of *Bhagwatijee*. There is a small cattle fair also.

Gupta Mela.—It is held at Sasaram in the month of February on *Basant Panchmi* day. It lasts for more than a fortnight. It is attended by about 10,000 people. It is mainly a religious *mela*.

Kothi Mela—It is held at village Jaso near Buxar twice a year on the occasions of *Ram Navmi* and *Ganga Dasahara*. It is attended by about five thousand people. It is essentially a religious *mela*.

Co-operation in Wholesale and Retail Trade.

Without mutual co-operation between these two sets of dealers business cannot thrive The wholesalers normally supply the commodities to the retailers on cash basis but credit to reasonable amount based on past relationship and credit of the retailers is also allowed. Credit is not encouraged in perishable goods and in gold and silver business.

Price Control Measures.

Due to the exigencies of the Second Great War there was an abnormal rise of price of certain essential commodities, viz, rice, wheat, cloth, cement, kerosene oil, petrol, etc It was necessary to control both the supply and consumption of these articles for essential purposes and to ensure that there were adequate commodities to go round to meet the immediate requirements of the civil population at a fair price. The State Government along with the Central Government had to follow a uniform and co-ordinated policy of controlling the supply of such goods which were absolutely necessary for the public In order to check the spiral rise of price of such articles and to stop the rampant black marketing in them, the scheme of the opening of Fair Price Shops in the urban areas was evolved A buffer reserve of essential commodities was sought to be built up by the State Government by direct procurement of foodgrains and other articles, stock them in Government godowns at the district headquarters or other places and arrange distribution of such commodities through the licensed Fair Price Shops The Fair Price Shops were licensed and regularly inspected A maximum quota of foodgrains and cloth were laid down for each individual in a family unit and for this purpose a survey of the family units was made Ration cards were issued to the head of the family

The Fair Price Shops were first started in Shahabad district in 1942 for the supply of rice, wheat, sugar, kerosene oil and cloth, etc At no stage was there a totalitarian control on these commodities This had the salutary effect in bringing down the prices of those commodities available outside the Fair Price Shops Each set controlled the other Whenever there would be a large supply of the commodities in the market through normal channels, the demand for taking such stuff from the Fair Price Shops would naturally decline The Fair Price Shops were expected to act as a check against black market in essential commodities The system continued throughout the War period No district is now a separate unit but is an integral part of the State and the country at large and so the system of Fair Price Shops is still continuing in some shape or other

During War period Government had also to exercise control over steel, iron goods and cement but the supply of these commodities was not made through the ordinary Fair Price Shop. These commodities continued to be supplied to the public through their normal agencies but under the restrictions imposed by statutory orders Licensing system had to be introduced and the distribution of quotas to the agencies was regulated along with the quantity available to the consumers. The consumer had to apply for such goods indicating his requirements and a permit would be given for as much of the commodity as possible It, however, the supply position was good and no sale through permits was necessary the restriction would be taken off This system is still continuing for steel, iron goods and cement. The vast development projects throughout the country during the Plan periods, both in the private and public sector naturally have to be given precedence to individual requirements

Even after the close of the Second Great War, the control on the essential food-stuff as indicated before has had to continue The ration card system for drawing commodities had stood the test and was allowed to remain The demand on the Fair Price Shops becomes more acute whenever there is an abnormal rise of prices due to short supply or other reasons In such circumstances the authorities will immediately see to the supply of the stuff to such shops so that there is no starvation

The control on the essential food-stuff was abolished in 1950 but had to be reimposed shortly Due to failure of the Hathia rains in 1951 and 1957 there was an acute shortage of foodgrains and the Government had to open a large number of Fair Price Shops throughout the district At present (1963) there are ten Government godowns and twelve Supply Inspectors in Shahabad district to distribute grains to the Fair Price Shops

The Government godowns are located at Arrah town (2), Bihea (1), Buxar town (2) Dumraon (1), Brahampur (1), Bhabua (1) and Sasaram (2).

In this connection reference may be made to the findings of the Agro-Economic Research Centre of Viswa Bharati University Shanti Niketan which had studied the working of the Fair Price Shops in Bihar in 1956-57. From their published report it appears that there was no marked rise in the prices of foodgrains in Bihar till the end of 1955 But by February, 1956 prices were beginning to show upward trends This made the Bihar Government to decide in favour of opening Fair Price Shops in the city of Patna. In February, 1956, prices of the foodgrains all over the State had risen considerably. *Rabi* crops were damaged in 1956-57 and prices started soaring from the beginning of 1957 and Fair Price Shops had to be opened in other districts as well. But it was observed there were often delays in supply from the godowns to the Fair Price

Shops. Besides the supply at the Fair Price Shops was hardly adequate to do away with the demand in the open market where the prices were slightly higher The clogging of the machinery at various stages did not allow the Fair Price Shops to work very successfully

The statement below shows the supply of foodgrains (wheat and rice, etc) through Fair Price Shops, number of persons benefited, etc, in the district of Shahabad from 1958 to 1962.—

	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Number of godowns functioning.	17	17	10	10	10
2. Supply of foodgrains (wheat, rice and pulses in maunds).	3,42,298	1,93,290	2,42,740	2,53,360	N.A.
3 Number of Fair Price Shops	629	629	651	651	480
4 Number of persons benefited by Fair Price Shops.	N A	6,11,873	23,42,474	4,95,977	4,97,157

N A.—Not available.

Control on other Articles.

Cement.—The Bihar Cement Control Order, 1948 was introduced in December, 1948, which required dealers to obtain licence and dispose of the stock at controlled rate to permit-holders. In 1958, due to satisfactory position of cement, control over its distribution was relaxed. In 1959, the control over distribution of cement was withdrawn In 1960, due to restricted movement supply position of cement became uncertain and Government have had to introduce the quota system on cement allotment. The selling rate of cement has to be fixed by the Subdivisional Officers concerned. In this way the supply of cement is either controlled or uncontrolled as the circumstances require

The following table will show the number of licences for stocking and selling cement subdivisionwise during (March) 1963·-

Subdivision	Location and number of licensee	
Arrah subdivision .	Arrah proper	13
	Hasanbazar	4
	Dhanauti	1
	Piro	1
	Barahra	1
	Shahpur	1
	Jagdishpur	1
	Bihea	5
	Garhani	2
	TOTAL	29

Subdivision		Location and number of licensee.	
Sasaram subdivision	..	Sasaram proper	5
		Tilouthu	1
		Dehri	7
		Bikramganj	4
		Sanjhauli	2
		Ghosikalan	1
		Nokha	2
		Nasriganj	2
		Asoshigola	1
		Banjari	1
		TOTAL	26
Buxar subdivision		Buxar proper	6
		Dumraon	4
		Gazadharganj	1
		Chausa	3
		Purana Bhojpur	1
		Raghunathpur	2
		Nawanagar	1
		Brahampur	1
		TOTAL	19
Bhabua subdivision		Bhabua proper	3
		Kudra	2
		Mohania	4
		Durgawati	1
		TOTAL	10

There has been a spurt of industrialisation in certain places. There has also been a certain amount of urbanisation and every town and township have had a considerable expansion and better type cement and brick houses are being added In the villages also such houses are being added The various development projects in the N F S Block also require a considerable quantity of cement. All these reasons explain the great demand for cement in this district It may be mentioned here that the district has one cement factory at Dalmianagar and another at Banjari (both in Sasaram subdivision).

Iron and Steel.—At present (March 1963) there are four registered iron stockists, at Arrah (2), Buxar (1) and Sasaram (1). Allotment of goods is made by the State Government to the stockists through quota certificates The stockists submit indent to the Iron

and Steel Controller, Calcutta. The supply is irregular and does not satisfy the needs

Kerosene oil—The Bihar Kerosene Oil Control Order was promulgated in 1949 in this district to regulate the supply and distribution of kerosene oil In 1952-53 due to foreign supply, i e, from Burma and other places the position had somewhat improved and in 1953-54 the control on kerosene oil was withdrawn. Since then the supply position has been satisfactory The price of kerosene oil has gone up due to the new taxation in 1963 but there is no short supply

Trade Associations

Association and organisation of traders and merchants play a necessary and important role in the community's economic life These associations have been formed to foster the interest of the businessmen but they cannot ignore the interest of the consumers

Some of trade associations at Arrah are listed below –

(1) Cloth Merchants' Association—Established in 1950—Members—50

(2) Foodgrains Merchants' Association—Established in 1954—Members—60

(3) Retail Cloth Dealers' Association—Established in 1940—Members—50

There is no Consumers Association in the district The details regarding labour association will be found in the relevant chapter

Mode of dissemination of trade news

Trade news of market generally percolate to the local merchants through letters, daily papers, radio receiving sets, telephones and telegrams The daily newspapers published from Patna, Calcutta or other places in English or in the vernacular languages carry trade news and they are eagerly scanned Recently some exclusive trade journals in English are becoming popular with the English-knowing businessmen Besides, the merchants also receive information from Government Department A marketing section has been opened under the guidance of Agriculture Department and Marketing Secretary and Inspectors have been appointed who communicate news regarding trade and commerce, and also the fluctuation of daily rates of the market to the traders.

Weights and Measures

Regarding Weights and Measures W. W Hunter mentions as follows —

> 'The following tables are given by the Collector.—8 *rati*=1 *masha*, 10 *masha*=1 *tola*; 5 *tola*=1 *chhatak*; 16 *chhatak*=1 *seer*, 5 *seers*=1 *paseri*, 8 *paseri*=1 *man* or *maund* of 82 lbs avoirdupois. This is the standard or *pakka* rate of weight throughout the district; but

in grain and other transactions various local weights are commonly used These vary, not only from *Pargana* to *Pargana,* but from village to village; and different weights are often used in the same village for weighing different commodities. The number of *sers* in a *maund* varies from 40 to 52, and the weight of the component *sers* also varies. The standard *ser* contains 80 tolas, the *tola* being the weight of the *sikka* rupees, or 180 grains, and no *ser* is heavier than 88 *tolas* The most commonly used *kachcha* or country *ser* contains only 48 *tolas* or 12 *gandas;* but 48 of these *sers* go to make up the *kachcha maund.* Land measure does not vary to the same extent, the higher of 27,225 square feet being used throughout the district, except in the Bhabua subdivision, where the *bigha* contains only 10,885 square feet. The standard table of square measure is as follows —20 *dhurki*=1 *dhur;* 20 *dhur*=1 *katha;* and 20 *katha*=1 *bigha* The *bigha* is measured by a bamboo of 8 feet 3 inches in length, called *lagi, bans,* or *talka* For cloth measure the ell (*gaz*) of 56 fingers (*anguli*) is in common use, but in Arrah a longer ell of 64 fingers is used by the cloth dealers. According to Dr. Buchanan Hamilton the ell equals 17½ *girah* or 45 *inches.*"*

The bewildering variety of measures was a handicap and it was felt necessary that the weights should be standardised by law This was done and the weights were standardised with the enforcement of Bihar Weights Act, 1947 made applicable in 1948 by fixing the weight of a standard *seer* at 80 *tolas.* The *seer* became the unit. This was called the *pucca* weight by the rural folks as against the weights used before the enforcement of the Act as the *kachcha* weights. The previous weights have been eliminated from the trade but they still linger in a very small manner among the farmers for weighing their farm produce or to distribute grains to the labourers in rural areas.

The *kachcha* weights had no fixed standard They are from place to place. The unit is the *Panseri.* This *panseri* consists of 78 *gondas* in Sandesh, Sahar, Ghagha and Dhobba areas and 76 *gondas* in Bikram and Sasaram areas.

This was the condition in so far as foodgrains were concerned. These weights were even more irregular and unstandardised for other measures. Though *tola, massa, ratti* were the units of weights, the jewellers generally used the old silver one rupee coin, eight annas coin, four annas coin, two annas and one anna coins to weigh one *tola* (*Ek bhur*), half *tola* (*Adha bhur*), ¼ *tola* (*Char annas bhur*)

* Form '*A Statistical Account of Bengal, Volume XII*' (Gaya and Shahabad), published in 1877, page 245.

$\frac{1}{8}$ *tola* (*do* annas *bhur*), $\frac{1}{16}$ *tola* (*Ek* anna *bhur*). With the abolition of the silver coins the measures were still more complicated and fell back on the old units of *tola*, *massa* and *ratti*.

With the introduction of the metric system of weights and measures (1959) the age old system of maunds, *seers*, *chhataks*, inch, feet and yard have now come to an end but not completely. The Bihar Weights and Measures Enforcement Act, 1959 has been compulsorily enforced in urban areas but some big wholesale dealers still use old weights in the markets. This is illegal and for the implementation of the current weights being strictly used, the Government of Bihar has appointed four Inspectors, posted at Arrah, Sasaram, Buxar and Bhabua. The Inspectors are expected to visit the *bazars* in their jurisdiction and check the weights and measures in use. In 1960-61 and 1961-62, 494 number of old weights and 133 old scales, 1,578 old weights, 133 old scales were seized respectively by the Inspectors. During 1960-61 and 1961-62, Rs. 7,015,25 and Rs 6,425 52 were realised from the shopkeepers as a verification and stamping charge.

The Inspectors of Weights and the Metric Officer of this department have been entrusted with publicity and propaganda work to explain to the masses the present metric system. The Inspectors have also to instruct the *Mukhiyas*, *Gram Sewaks* and the Village Level Workers so that they could teach others. One set of metric weights from 50 kilograms to 100 grams has been supplied to every block for exhibition

Standard weights are manufactured by *bona fide* licensed dealers They sell standard weights There are (March, 1963) seven dealers—at Arrah proper—2, Buxar—2, Mohania—1, Sasaram—1 and Dehri-on-Sone—1. The chart that follows gives the conversion tables:—

CONVERSION FACTORS.

Length—

1 inch=2.54 centimetres.
1 foot=30.48 centimetres.
1 yard=91 44 centimetres.
1 mile=1 61 kilometres.
1 nautical mile (UK)=1853 18 metres.
1 nautical mile (international)=1852 metres.

Area—

1 square foot=0.093 square metre.
1 square yard=0 836 square metre
1 square mile=2.59 square kilometres.
1 acre=0.405 hectare.

Volume—

1 cubic foot=0.028 cubic metre.

Capacity—

1 gallon (Imperial)=4 55 litres.
1 seer (80 tolas)=0 937 litre
1 Madras measure=1 77 litres.

Weight—

1 tola=11 66 grams.
1 chhatak=58 32 grams.
1 seer=933 10 grams
1 maund=37 32 kilograms.
1 palam=34 99 grams
1 seer (24 tolas)=279 93 grams.
1 viss=1 40 kilograms
1 maund (Madras)=11 20 kilograms.
1 candy=223 94 kilograms.
1 ounce=28 35 grams
1 pound=453 59 grams
1 hundredweight=50 80 kilograms
1 ton=1016 05 kilograms.

Temperature—

t° Fahrenheit=9|5 (T° centigrade)+32

Metric Weights and Measures

Length—

10 millimetres=1 centimetre
100 centimetres=1 metre
1,000 metres=1 kilometre
1,852 metres=1 nautical mile (international).

Area—

100 square millimetres=1 square centimetre
10,000 square centimetres=1 square metre or centiare.
100 square metres=1 are
100 ares=1 hectare
100 hectare or 10,00,000 square metres=1 square kilometre.

Volume—

10,00,000 cubic centimetres=1 cubic metre.

Capacity—

1 000 millilitres=1 litre
1,000 litres=1 kilolitre.

Weights—

1,000 milligrams=1 gram.
1 000 grams=1 kilogram
100 kilograms=1 quintal
1,000 kilograms=1 tonne.
200 milligrams=1 carat.

Abbreviations for Metric Units.

(1) DECIMAL MULTIPLES AND SUB-MULTIPLES

Prefix.	Value in terms of unit.	Abbreviation.
kilo	1000	k
centi	0 01 (10^{-2})	c
milli	0.001 (10^{-3})	m
micro	0.000001(10^{-6})	u

(2) WEIGHTS

Denomination.	Value	Abbreviation.
tonne	1000 kg	t
quintal	100 kg	q
kilogram	1 kg	kg
gram	1 g	g
milligram	1 mg	mg
carat	200 mg	c

(3) CAPACITY

kilolitre	1, 000 l	kl
litre	1 l	l
millilitre	1 ml	ml

(4) VOLUME

cubic metre	m^3	m^3 or cu m*
cubic centimetre	cm^3	cm^3 or cu cm*
cubic millimetre	mm^3	mm^3 or cu mm*

(5) LENGTH

kilometre	1 000 m	km
metre	1 m	m
centimetre	1 cm	cm
millimetre	1 mm	mm
micron	1/1 000 mm or — 10^{-3} mm	um

(6) AREA

square kilometre	$1000000 m^2$	km^2 or sq km*
square metre	$1 m^2$	m^2 or sq m*
square centimetre	$1 cm^2$	cm^2 or sq cm*
square millimetre	$1 mm^2$	mm^2 or sq mm*

(7) LAND MEASURE

are	$100 m^2$	a
hectare	100 a	ha
centiare	m^2	ca

Rules for Abbreviations.

(1) Do not make any change, such as addition of 's' to indicate plurality, e g, write 1 kg 10 kg 20 9, 5 g, 10 t, 20 ml, 27 1, 165 km, 2 mm, 100 cm, 66 km.

(2) Do not capitalize the abbreviations For example, do not write 1 Kg, 2 Kg, 20 MM, 50 MM, the right way is to write 1 kg, 2 kg, 20 mm 50 mm, 35 c

(3) Do not use any other abbreviations except those given above

* Both these abbreviations are current, but the first should preferably be used The former abbreviation is used internationally

CHAPTER VII.

COMMUNICATIONS.

OLD TIME TRADE ROUTES AND HIGHWAYS AND MODES OF CONVEYANCE.

From *"An Account of the District of Shahabad in* 1812-13" by Francis Buchanan, it appears that two great roads passed through the breadth of the district, but neither was of much advantage to commerce One of them was the military road from Calcutta to Varanasi, and was maintained by the public. It contained no hard material and was merely a line marked by two ditches from which a little earth was occasionally thrown to fill up ruts or hollows made by the rain. The other road along the old bank of the Ganga was also a military road from Danapur to Buxar. It was kept up by an additional tax of 1 per cent levied on the whole land that was assessed. This road was not even suitable for military purposes, as it remained practically impassable in the rainy season.

Besides these, it appears from his account that the cross roads then existing were of chief utility to the people of the district, but were in a very bad condition, worse than those of Behar (at present Patna and Gaya districts).

From his account it appears that the district was less favoured with water transport than Behar and the number of boats in proportion was perhaps smaller, nor was any kept for the accommodation of the great in travelling

He further mentions that the Sone was the only river of which advantage had been taken to form floats, each of these floats contained about 14,000 bamboos and they were used from February to May only *

Besides these means of communications, Francis Buchanan mentions one more road running from Sasaram to Rohtasgarh.* According to him goods were conveyed by bullock-carts, oxen and country boats and luggage by porters Ponies were not used for the carriage of goods but were used for carrying passengers.

A hundred years back bullock cart-trains either run by the Government or by private concerns used to pass over this road under the protection of armed sentries on horse back. The old English Correspondence Volumes about a hundred years old preserved in Arrah Record Room referred to the frequent dacoities which used

* *An account of the District of Shahabad in* 1812 13 by Francis Buchanan, published on behalf of the Bihar and Orissa Research Society in 1934, pages 440—48

to take place on the Grand Trunk Road. At frequent intervals there used to be Police Chowkis or *Murhellas* along with *Sarais* or *Chatis* that would give shelter to the travellers. The Grand Trunk Road in the early 19th century was the chief operating zone for the dacoits and *thugs*. Recently a road warning inscribed in *Kaithi* Hindi and Urdu on either side warning the travellers for not accepting sweets from unknown persons as there are *thugs* in abundance has been discovered near Durgauti in Kudra police-station.

Between the years 1813 and 1877 there had been marked improvement in the means of communications in the district of Shahabad. W. W Hunter writes.—

> "The following list of the roads in Shahabad District was furnished by the Executive Engineer in 1876 —(1) Grand Trunk Road, 55½ miles in length, from Dehri to Naubatpur This road is carried across the Son on a causeway, which is flooded every year during the rainy season The annual cost of repairs is £ 2,062, 4s. (2) A metalled road from Durgauti to Zamania, 6½ miles in length, annual cost of repairing £ 32, 10s. The following sixteen roads are unmetalled, but they are raised and bridged throughout (3) Road from Sasseram to Arrah, 65 miles long. annual cost £ 156, (4) Road from Koelwar to Chausa, 58 miles long, annual cost, £ 145, (5) Road from Piru to Bihiya, 18 miles, annual cost £ 45, (6) Road from Sinhan to Bihiya 14 miles, annual cost, £ 21, (7) Road from Sinhan to Arrah 11 miles annual cost, £ 22, (8) Road from Barhara to Arrah, 11 miles, annual cost, £ 33, (9) Road from Kasopur to Kamnagar, 7 miles, annual cost, £ 10, 10s, (10) Road from Nasriganj to Dumraon 40 miles, annual cost £ 120 (11) Road from Sasseram to Bihiya 6 miles, annual cost, £ 12, (12) Road from Jadunathpur to Koelwar, 122 miles, annual cost, £ 224, (13) Road from Tilothu to Sasseram, 13 miles, annual cost, £ 19, 10s, (14) Road from Karondia to Chhilbiba, 10 miles, annual cost, £ 10, (15) Road from Chanari to Jahanabad 20 miles, annual cost, £ 20, (16) Road from Jahanabad to Karamnasa 28 miles; annual cost, £ 60, (17) Road from Bhagwanpur to Bhabhua, 9 miles; annual cost, £ 18, (18) Road from Mohanian to Bhabua, 9 miles; annual cost, £ 27. The following sixteen roads are raised, but not bridged:—(19) Bhagwanpur to Darauli, 28 miles; annual cost, £ 42, (20) Durgauti to Hatah, 24 miles, annual cost £ 24, (21) Barun to Jahanabad, 16 miles; annual cost, £ 16,

(22) Mohanian to Chausa, 31 miles, annual cost, £ 53, 10s, (23) Ramgarh to Nawanon, 10 miles; annual cost, £ 10, (24) Sasseram to Chausa, 40 miles, annual cost, £ 9, (25) Barun to Buxar, 38 miles; annual cost, not given, (26) Dildarnagar to Dinara, 27 miles, annual cost, £ 27, (27) Nimjaur to Dumraon, 14 miles, annual cost, £ 14, (28) Nimjaur to Saraya, 20 miles, annual cost, £ 20, (29) Nawanagar to Arrah, 28 miles, annual cost, £ 84, (30) Baliyaghat to Dumraon, 11 miles, annual cost, £ 16, 10s, (31) Sahar to Arrah, 19 miles, annual cost, £47, 10s, (32) Bibiganj to Jagdishpur, 12 miles, annual cost, £12, (33) Ukhagaon to Arrah, 12 miles, annual cost, £ 36, (34) Barhara to Koelwar, 15 miles, annual cost, £ 15 The following five roads were made during the famine of 1873-74, as relief works—(35) Saraya to Puranda, 24 miles, (36) Gadhari to Bihta, 16½ miles, annual cost, £ 33, (37) Bikramganj to Mohania, 40 miles, (38) Nanaur to Barona, 4 miles, annual cost £ 12 (39) Jahanabad to Purandi, 25 miles The total length of district roads exclusive of village tracks is 957⅓ miles Total expenditure, £ 3,610, 4s of which £ 2,062, 4s is derived from Imperial and the remainder from local funds There is a road cess of 1 per cent on the permanent revenue of the District

"The report of the Shahabad District Road Fund for the year ending September, 1875, as published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of 12th July 1876, shows a total income for the year of £ 2 776, 8s of which £ 1,641 was derived from a road cess, not levied under the District Road Cess Act of 1871, and £ 889 from ferry tolls The expenditure in the same year amounted to £ 4 469 12s, of which £ 1411 was expended on original works and £ 2,760 on repairs

"*Railways*—The East Indian Railway traverses Shahabad District from Koelwar station on the Son to Chausa on the Karamnassa, a distance of 60 miles The intermediate stations are Arrah Bihiya Raghunathpur, Dumraon, and Baxar"*

As regards waterways he mentioned that a large through trade was carried on both up and downstream by the river Ganga but the only places of any importance on the south bank were Buxar and Chausa

* *A Statistical Account of Bengal*, 1878, Vol XII, Gaya and Shahabad, pages 256-57

According to W W Hunter, navigation on the Sone was intermittent and of little commercial importance. The principal traffic was bamboos and timber The former were floated down on rafts consisting of 1,000 or so lashed together It was estimated that about 4 million of bamboos were floated down the Sone *

According to the first edition of the *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* published in 1906 by O'Malley as revised in 1924 by J F W James, the district of Shahabad was well provided with roads of which the Grand Trunk traversed the district from south-east to north-west and the whole district was well supplied with District Board and village roads The total mileage of these roads was 2,060 The Grand Trunk Road ran for 56½ miles through Shahabad district It was bridged throughout the district but between Dehri and Barun across the Sone there was only a stone causeway which was often difficult to cross The principal roads which branched off from the Grand Trunk Road were those from Sasaram to Arrah, from Mohania to Bhabua from Durgauti to Zamania, from Dehri to Akbarpur and from Dehri to Bikramganj The other great historic road of the district was the Ganga road from Koilwar through Arrah and Buxar to Chausa It ran in Shahabad for 64 miles, of which only the portion passing through Arrah and also that between Dumraon and Buxar were metalled The other important roads as mentioned in the Gazetteer were — (1) the metalled road from Arrah to Sasaram, 61 miles in length, (2) the metalled road from Nasriganj to Dumraon which crosses the Arrah-Sasaram road at Bikramganj, (3) the metalled road from Piro to Shahpur through Bihea, (4) the metalled road from Arrah to Bahiyara on the Sone, (5) the unmetalled road from Koilwar running by the Sone through Dehri to Akbarpur and beyond to the border of the district, (6) the unmetalled road from Chousa to Sasaram, and (7) the unmetalled road from Chousa to Mohania **

Regarding the trade routes the *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) mentions as follows —

> "The East Indian Railway constitutes the chief artery of commerce, and the main trade of the district is that which is carried out of it or brought into it by this route A certain amount of produce passes along the canals, which are in direct connection with the railway, as both their northern and southern termini are on the line of rail There was formerly a considerable inter-district trade in grain, oil-seeds and *ghi* carried by pack bullocks between Shahabad and the market town of Garwa in Palamau, but this has now been

* *A Statistical Account of Bengal*, 1878 Vol XII, Gaya and Shahabad, pages 163-164

** *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924). pages 113—116.

diverted to the railway by the construction of the Barun-Daltonganj line. A large amount of produce also finds its way along the various roads and then across the Ganges to the Ballia and Ghazipur districts, great quantities of bamboos are floated down the Son; and there is a considerable river-borne trade along the Ganges. The steamer service from Digha which terminates at Buxar connects that station with the great Bengal river marts, and with the marts of the United Provinces A great part of the merchandise of the riparian tract is borne by this service and also by country boats plying on the Ganges"*

As regards railways the *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) mentions that Shahabad was fairly served by railways The main line of the East Indian Railway (now Eastern Railway) ran through the north of the district which it entered at Koilwar where a fine lattice girder bridge had been built across the Sone. The other route of the district was tapped by the Grand Chord line of the East Indian Railway running from Dehri-on-Sone to the Karamnasa with a total length in this district of 53 miles. It is carried over the Sone by one of the longest bridges in the world It had a total length of 10,044 feet and it comprised 93 spans of 108 feet each. Besides the East Indian Railway, there was a Light Railway from Arrah to Sasaram, and another Dehri-Rohtas Light Railway (24 miles in length) from Dehri-on-Sone to Akbarpur.

According to the Gazetteer mentioned above, the Ganga was navigable throughout the year and a steamer service for passengers and goods traffic plied as far as Buxar Of the other rivers the Karamnasa, the Durgauti and Shuara were navigable only during the rainy season Navigation on the Sone was intermittent and of little commercial importance The main canals of the Sone irrigation system were navigable, 123 miles of canals being by that time open to navigation, and a bi-weekly service of steamers ran from Dehri to Arrah **

In the last four decades after the *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* published in 1924, there have been remarkable changes in communications The expansion of the railways has led to enormous increase in traffic both in passengers and goods A certain part of the hills section in the south of the district up to Pipradih is now connected by the railways and this is a very important link. both for goods and passengers. Roadways have been expanded and improved and a large number of passenger buses and trucks are running on them The Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway has, however, had a slump owing to the diversion of certain part of goods traffic

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), page 111.

** *Ibid* pages 116—118.

through truck on the parallel road and it is a notorious fact that many of them also carry passenger in an unauthorised manner. The steamer-boat service on the Dehri-Arrah canal has been closed down. The steamer service on the Ganga which used to stop at various places in Shahabad district has also been closed down. The Grand Trunk Road has been given a much better service and is traversed by hundreds of motor vehicles every day. Bullock-carts have not only continued but have multiplied many times in the last few decades to cope with the increase in trade and industries. The villages and the village markets still require them.

ROADS NOW.

The roads now may be classified as Public Works Department roads, District Board roads, Municipal roads and village roads.

Public Works Department Roads.

The Public Works Department in this district is divided into two divisions. (*i*) Shahabad Division (Arrah) and (*ii*) Sasaram Division. The Shahabad Division (Arrah) controls the northern portion while the Sasaram Division controls the southern portion of the district.

Roads under Shahabad P. W. D. Division (Arrah).

The Shahabad Division (Arrah) of Public Works Department maintains 31¼ miles of roads under Central Road Fund of which only 8 miles are metalled. It also maintains the National Highways of 41 miles of metalled road Under the Five-Year Plans 104 miles of roads are also controlled by it Of these 89½ miles are metalled It also maintains 10 miles of metalled road under the Road Improvement Scheme. The total number of roads under the control of this P W D Division is 14, totalling 186¼ miles in length. The list of the roads maintained by this division is given below:—

Serial no	Name of the road	Classification	Length in miles
1	Arrah Ekwari-Khaira-Sahar Road	Central Road Fund	21
2	Saraiya-Balua-Salempur Road ..	Ditto ..	6¼
3	Bhojpur-Dumri Road . .	Ditto .	4
4	Arrah-Sasaram Road .	National Highway	31
5	Arrah Koilwar Road .	Ditto	10
6	Arrah Salempur Road .	Five Year Plan Communication	9¼
7	Sasaram-Chousa Road .	Ditto .	14
8	Ramgarh-Chousa Road .	Ditto ..	11
9	Arrah-Sinha Road . . .	Ditto .	9¼
10	Dumraon-Simri Road . .	Ditto ..	7
11	Koilwar-Babura Road . .	Ditto ..	7
12	Arrah-Buxar Road . . .	Ditto ..	46
13	Buxar-Chousa Road . ..	Road Improvement Scheme.	8
14	Buxar Bye-Pass Road . ..	Ditto ..	2

A short description of the roads is as follows —

(1) *Arrah-Ekwari-Sahar Road*.—This is a road sponsored by the Central Road Fund. The length of the road is 20 miles. This is a *katcha* road. But out of 20 miles, 8 miles will be made *pucca*. The total length of 2 miles has already been made *pucca*. The improvement work of the road is in progress. It connects the district headquarters with Sahar, the headquarters of a police-station.

(2) *Saraiya-Balua-Salempur Road*.—This is a road sponsored by the Central Road Fund. This is 6½ miles in length. It is a *katcha* road but now (1964) it is being metalled.

(3) *Bhojpur-Dumri Road*.—This is a road sponsored by the Central Road Fund. This is a *katcha* road, 4 miles in length.

(4) *Arrah-Sasaram Road*.—This road takes from Arrah and connects Arrah with Grand Trunk Road at Sasaram. This is a National Highway. Under Shahabad P. W. D. Division (Arrah) the road is from 0 to 31 miles. This is a *pucca* road and runs side by side with the Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway. Due to the lack of a road bridge on the Sone at Dehri this is a very important artery of communication between places west of Dehri and to its east for all such road traffic has to pass along this road. It connects the district headquarters (Arrah) with the subdivisional headquarters (Sasaram). A traffic census was taken of vehicles, human beings and cattle using this road for the three days 5th, 6th and 7th March, 1963 by the Public Works Department. The total for these 72 hours was as follows —

(1) Loaded *tamtam*	.. .	128
(2) Unloaded *tamtam*	.. .	91
(3) Loaded bullock-cart	..	448
(4) Unloaded bullock-cart	.. ..	272
(5) Loaded truck	. .	1,158
(6) Unloaded truck	. ..	923
(7) Loaded bus	.. ..	96
(8) Unloaded bus	.. ..	56
(9) Car	.. ..	377
(10) Rickshaw	.. .	41
(11) Cycle	.. .	3,146
	TOTAL	6,736

This gives an average of 94 vehicles per hour or 1.5 vehicles per minute. The number of the pedestrians was found to be 12,034 for 72 hours. This gives an average of 167 pedestrians per hour or nearly 3 per minute. The number of cattle that used the road was 3,231 for 72 hours, which shows that 45 cattle per hour pass along this road. These figures show the great importance of this road which runs through a rural area and there is also a light railway running parallel to the road.

(5) *Arrah-Koilwar Road.*—This is a National Highway. It connects Arrah, the district headquarters, with Patna, the State capital. The road up to Koilwar bridge (7 miles long) is in Shahabad district and under the jurisdiction of P. W. D. Division, Shahabad (Arrah).

(6) *Arrah-Salempur Road.*—It is under the head Five-Year Plans communication The length of the road is 9½ miles. The road is metalled.

(7) *Sasaram-Chousa Road.*—It is under the head Five-Year Plans communication It is 41 miles long of which 14 miles lie under Shahabad P. W D Division (Arrah) and the rest is under Sasaram P. W. D Division

(8) *Ramgarh-Chousa Road.*—It is under the head Five-Year Plans communication. It is 11 miles in length of which 10 miles are metalled, the remaining one mile forms the approach road to Chousa Railway Station.

(9) *Arrah-Sinha Road*—This is a State Highway. The length of the road is 10 miles. The improvement work of the road is in progress and is expected to be metalled within 1964. This is also a very important road for quick and cheap transport of goods from Shahabad to Ballia *via* a ferry on the Ganga at Sinha.

(10) *Dumraon-Simri Road.*—It is a State Highway. It is 7 miles in length of which one mile is metalled and six miles are *katcha.*

(11) *Koilwar-Babura Road.*—It is under the head Five-Year Plans Communication. The length of the road is 7 miles. It is a *katcha* road.

(12) *Arrah-Buxar Road.*—This is a State Highway and connects Arrah, the district headquarters, with Buxar, the subdivisional headquarters. This is a very old and important road. It is a metalled road.

(13) *Buxar-Chousa Road.*—This is a State Highway and of inter-State importance. The length of the road is 8 miles. It is a metalled road. It starts from 1st mile of Ramrekhaghat-Buxar Railway Station Road and meets Sasaram-Chousa Road at 41st mile.

(14) *Buxar Bye-Pass Road.*—This road is under Road Improvement Scheme. It is a metalled road of two miles It is from Buxar Station Road to second mile of Buxar-Chousa Road

Roads under Sasaram P. W D Division (Dehri-on-Sone).

The Sasaram Division of Public Works Department maintains 6½ miles of roads under the Central Road Fund It also maintains the National Highways totalling 85 miles, the whole of which is metalled. Under the Five-Year Plan 209 miles of road have also been controlled by it Of these 167 miles are metalled The total number of roads under the control of this P W D. Division is 20, totalling 332 miles in length The list of the roads maintained by this division is given below:—

Serial no.	Name of the road.	Classification.	Length in miles.
1	Ramgarh-Mohania Road	Five-Year Plans Communication	9
2	Ramgarh-Chousa Road	Ditto ..	11
3	Bhabua-Mohania Road . .	Ditto ..	9
4	Bhabua-Chainpur-Chand Road . ..	Ditto ..	18
5	Bhabua-Adhaura Road . ..	Ditto ..	34½
6	Kudra-Chenari-Malhipur Road	Ditto	14
7	Bikramganj-Mohania Road .. .	Ditto ..	42
8	Sasaram-Chousa Road .	Ditto ..	27
9	Area round Shershah Tomb Road ..	Ditto ..	2
10	Bikramganj-Nasriganj Road ..	Ditto ..	13
11	Dehri-Nasriganj Road . ..	Ditto ..	16
12	Dehri-Bikramganj Road	Ditto ..	9
13	Tolkap-Banjari-Akbarpur Road ..	Ditto .	6¼
14	Dehri-Amjore Road	Central Road Fund	21
15	Arrah-Sasaram Road . ..	National Highway	30
16	Grand Trunk Road	Ditto ..	55
17	Station approach Road, Dehri	Repair Provision .	1
18	Bedandih-Darsandih Road	Ditto ..	6
19	Sasaram-Malhipur Road	Ditto ..	8
20	Sasaram-Nikta Hill Road	Ditto ..	2
		TOTAL ..	332

A short description of the roads is as follows:—

(1) *Ramgarh-Mohania Road*.—This is a road sponsored by the Five-Year Plans Fund. The length of the road is 9 miles. It is a *pucca* road. The improvement work on the road has been completed. It connects the Chousa-Mohania Road with Grand Trunk Road at Mohania.

(2) *Ramgarh-Chousa Road*.—This is a road sponsored by the Five-Year Plans Fund. The length of the road is 11 miles, of which 7½ miles are metalled and 3½ miles are in progress. It connects to Ramgarh-Mohania Road and then to Grand Trunk Road.

(3) *Bhabua-Mohania Road*.—This *pucca* road is sponsored by the Five-Year Plans Fund. The length of the road is 9 miles. It connects Bhabua town to Grand Trunk Road at Mohania.

(4) *Bhabua-Chainpur-Chand Road*.—This is a road sponsored by the Five-Year Plans Fund. The length of the road is 16 miles. This is a *pucca* road. It connects the Chand Police-Station under Bhabua subdivision with Bhabua town.

(5) *Bhabua-Adhaura Road*.—This is a road sponsored by the Five-Year Plans Fund. The length of the road is 34½ miles. This is a *katcha* road. The construction of the road is under progress. It connects the hilly and the interior parts of South Shahabad to Bhabua town.

The road running from Bhabua to Adhaura is *katcha* that is earth-covered from Bhabua to Shuara river, a distance of about 10 miles. This portion of the road is in the process of being metalled. Adhaura Block begins from the river Shuara which has its source in Okhergara, an uninhabited village of Adhaura Block. The scenery on this portion of the road is just like those in the plains and has nothing remarkable in it. There is a culvert here over the Shuara river and the road passes over it. For two miles beyond this river the road passes through a *ghat* which is very steep and has five very dangerous bends in it. This portion of the road is metalled and tarred. The scenery though beautiful in this spot is awe-inspiring due to these bends bordered by deep gorges. This *ghat* is called Hanuman ghat, most probably because monkeys are found in abundance here. There is a small Mahabir temple near the *ghat*.

From the *ghat* upwards to Adhaura the road is still only an apology for a road, for the surface has loose pebbles, clods of earth, etc., thrown over it. This bad portion of the road is about 24 miles long.

From the river Shuara onwards the forest begins. This forest is a reserved forest in which *shikar* without permit is prohibited. The jungle abounds in wild animals such as tiger, leopard, deer, stag, blue bull, wild boar, beer, rabbit, etc.

People from the plain use this area as the grazing ground for their cattle during the rainy season. This area, therefore, becomes rich in this season in milk and milk-products and exports specially *ghee* to U. P. and other parts of the district of Shahabad. The forest also produces *mahua, chiraunji,* plum (*bair*), *piar,* etc., which are used as food by the Adivasis. The forest also produces other fruits like *amla, haray, bahera,* etc., and also *Kendu* leaves, bamboos, timber of different kinds which are exported to U P. and other parts of Bihar. Firewood and charcoal prepared from them are the other economic products of the forest

On the road there is a District Board Dak Bungalow at village Karar at a distance of about 17 miles from Bhabua It is not well furnished. There is a *Shiv linga* on a terrace near the dak bungalow. Besides the *linga* there are images of Hindu gods of ancient origin. At a distance of about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from the road near Karar there is a steep vertical waterfall, about five hundred feet deep The waterfall is called Telhar Kund. One remarkable feature is that at the bottom of this waterfall a *Sadhu* has been successful in establishing a *Kutia* for himself in this rather inaccessible wilderness

One peculiar mode of conveyance was seen here It has no wheels. It is supported on a pair of wooden supports arranged in the form of a fork and slanting backwards It is overlain with a cot and dragged along by a pair of bullocks. This mode of conveyance is used only during the harvest season for carrying produce from the fields.

Postal communication with Adhaura from Bhabua is maintained through runners in three stages. The telephone communication between Bhabua and Adhaura is very frequently interrupted. The wooden poles are very often found dismantled

(6) *Kudra-Chenari-Mahlipur Road.*—This is a road sponsored by the Five-Year Plans Fund The length of the road is 14 miles. The road is metalled The improvement work of the road is in progress. It connects the Chenari Police-Station to Grand Trunk Road in mile 363.

(7) *Bikramganj-Mohania Road.*—This is a road sponsored by the Five-Year Plans Fund. The length of the road is 42 miles. It is a metalled road. The improvement work of the road is in progress. It connects Bikramganj, Kochas to Mohania and meets the Grand Trunk Road near Mohania.

(8) *Sasaram-Chousa Road.*—This is a road sponsored by the Five-Year Plans Fund. The length of the road is 27 miles and falls under the jurisdiction of the Public Works Department Division, Sasaram and is metalled. It connects the area of Kochas, Karaghar, Chousa and Sasaram and meets the Grand Trunk Road near Sasaram Court at mile 350.

(9) *Area Round Shershah Tomb Road.*—This is a road sponsored by the Five-Year Plans Fund The length of the road is two miles. It is a metalled road. The improvement work of the road is in progress. It is a round road to the Tomb of Shershah.

(10) *Bikramganj-Nasriganj Road.*—This metalled road of 13 miles length is sponsored by the Five-Year Plans Fund.

(11) *Dehri-Nasriganj Road*.—This is a road sponsored by the Five-Year Plans Fund of 16 miles in length. The road is metalled and connects the Nasriganj Police-Station to Dehri town.

(12) *Dehri-Bikramganj Road.*—This is a road sponsored by the Five-Year Plans Fund and is nine miles long out of which six miles are concrete road and three miles are metalled. It connects Bikramganj to Dehri and Dalmianagar.

(13) *Telkap-Banjari-Akbarpur Road.*—This is a road sponsored by the Five-Year Plans Fund for metalling and black-topping only. The length of the road is 6½ miles, out of which 5 miles have been metalled and the rest 1½ miles are held up for want of decision regarding the construction of a bridge over river Aswani which will be met out of the Central Road Fund. This road when completed will allow a straight vehicular run from Dehri town to Rohtas Police Thana.

(14) *Dehri-Amjore Road.*—This is a road sponsored by the Central Road Fund which is 21 miles long and is metalled. It connects Dehri with a portion of South Shahabad and will have increasing importance when the pyrite mines at Amjore are exploited.

(15) *Arrah-Sasaram Road.*—This road takes off from Arrah and connects Arrah to Grand Trunk Road at Sasaram. This is a National Highway. The road falls under the jurisdiction of this Public Works Department Division from mile 32nd to 61|I. This is a *pucca* road and runs side by side of the Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway. This road is important connecting the North Shahabad to South Shahabad. Other details regarding this road will be found elsewhere.

(16) *Grand Trunk Road (National Highway no.* 2).—This road falls under the jurisdiction of Sasaram Public Works Department Division and runs from miles 338|II to 394|I up to the border of

Bihar State, i.e., from Dehri-on-Sone to Karamnasa This road is one of the main arteries of inter-State communication in the country. The only drawback has been the absence of a road bridge over the river Sone at Dehri-on-Sone This has been causing the diversion of vehicles going out of and coming into this district from Gaya district, through the Arrah-Sasaram Road Vehicles can be transported by railway wagons over the river from Dehri-on-Sone to Sone-East Bank or *vice versa.* To avoid this difficulty a road bridge is being constructed over the river Sone at Dehri-on-Sone on this road. The work on this road bridge was started on 5th December, 1962 at a revised estimate of Rs 2,30,72,000 and is expected to be completed by 5th June, 1965* The total length of the road is to be 10,044 feet, the width to be 23 feet with 2 feet of foot-paths on each side There are to be 2 abutments and 92 pillars, the distance between the pillars being 108 feet (centre to centre)

On the completion of this bridge, through inter-State traffic will be possible on this road without any diversion

(17) *Dehri Station Approach Road*.—This is a *pucca* road The total length of the road is about one mile It connects the Dehri-Nasriganj Road to Dehri Railway Station.

(18) *Bedadih Darsandih Road*.—This is a *pucca* road The length of the road is six miles which has recently been taken over from the Shahabad District Board. It connects the Grand Trunk Road in mile 352.

(19) *Sasaram-Malhipur Road up to Darigaw*.—This is a *pucca* road. The length of eight miles of this road falls under the jurisdiction of the Public Works Department Division. The road has been recently taken over from the Shahabad District Board. It connects the interior parts to Sasaram town

(20) *Sasaram-Nikta Hill Road*.—This is a *pucca* approach road. The length of the road is about two miles. The road has been taken over from the Shahabad District Board. It connects the Sasaram College to Grand Trunk Road in mile 349.

District Board Roads.

There are 111 roads under the District Board, Shahabad, of the total mileage of 678 miles, of which 101 miles are metalled and 577 miles are *katcha* There are 69 Local Board Roads totalling 250 miles of *katcha* roads under the Arrah Sadar Local Board 64 Local Board Roads totalling 181 miles of *katcha* roads under the Sasaram Local Board, 54 Local Board Roads totalling 218 miles *katcha* roads under the Buxar Local Board. 49 Local Board Roads totalling 211 miles *katcha* roads under the Bhabua Local Board.

* This expectation was not prefilled (P. C. R. C.).

A Statement regarding the expenditure incurred by the District Board, Shahabad, on roads is attached herewith:—

The expenditure by the District Board on *Pucca, Katcha* and Village roads for the last ten years are as follows:—

Classification of roads.	1952-53.		1953-54.		1954-55.		1955-56.		1956-57.	
	Cost of original work.	Cost of repair work	Cost of original work.	Cost of repair work	Cost of original work.	Cost of repair work.	Cost of original work.	Cost of repair work.	Cost of original work	Cost of repair work.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. *Pucca* roads ..	35,441	8,53,593	46,171	2,78,164	25,658	3,22,568	1,46,057	3,79,111	1,68,209	3,85,543
2. *Katcha* roads ..	6,679	1,16,587	Nil	70,400	187	1,12,334	29,184	43,080	18,356	1,95,793
3. Village roads ..	Nil	38,103	Nil	37,875	Nil	32,130	15,329	14,690	2,970	55,088

Classification of roads.	1957-58.		1958-59.		1959-60.		1960-61.		1961-62.		1962-63.	
	Cost of original work.	Cost of repair work.	Cost of original work.	Cost of repair work.	Cost of original work.	Cost of repair work.	Cost of original work.	Cost of repair work.	Cost of original work.	Cost of repair work.	Cost of original work.	Cost of repair work.
1	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs	Rs.
1. *Pucca* roads	2,95,612	1,86,309	1,57,287	2,01,381	2,63,129	1,35,229	3,13,211	1,65.127	1,31,641 61	2,13,851.79	1,19 889.25	5,01,957.14
2. *Katcha* roads	Nil	11,764	16,723	62,041	447	20,591	18,264	32,502	74,644.16	1,31,851.79	31,483.75	1,16,189.83
3. Village roads	2,834	33,135	1,530	26,263	981	12,040	200	11,928	1,608.00	56,434.50	2,865.00	54,266.00

Municipal Roads.

The municipalities, viz., Arrah, Jagdishpur, Dumraon, Buxar, Bhabua and Sasaram and the Notified Area Committee at Dehri maintain roads in their own municipal areas in the district. The roads maintained by each of the municipalities and Notified Area Committee in 1963-64 are as follows:—

Serial no.	Name of the municipality.	Total mileage of road.	Classification. Katcha road (in miles).	Pucca road (in miles).
1	2	3	4	5
1	Arrah	24	9	15
2	Jagdishpur	4½	2½	2
3	Dumraon	12	6	6
4	Buxar	9.07	1.82	7.25
5	Bhabua	2	..	2
6	Sasaram	13	5.09	7.91
7	Dehri-Dalmianagar Notified Area Committee	0.54	0.42	0.14

Village Roads.

Besides the roads under the District Board and the Local Boards, some 269 miles new roads have been constructed by *Gram Panchayats* in the district. They have further repaired 472 miles of old roads in the district.

Canal Roads.

There are 280 miles of canal roads along the main canals and 1,218 miles along the distributaries. These canal roads are opened for car and pedestrian traffic only. No other traffic is allowed over these roads and they cannot, therefore, be considered as general means of communication.

Forest Roads.

The Forest Department has constructed its own roads for the purpose of extraction of forest produce and also inspections. The Shahabad Forest Division has 221 miles and 6 furlongs of

fair weather roads and 54 miles and 6 furlongs are under construction in 1963-64 as follows:—

Serial no.	Name of road.	Length. Miles.	Furlongs.
1	Samhuta-Gamharia *Via* Rehal and Adhaura	42	4
2	Chaudherna-Karkatgarh	13	0
3	Kalyanipur-Kamharia	14	0
4	Akbarpur-Garadag	32	0
5	Mahlipur-Suggikhoh	21	6
6	Tarachandi-Budhua	28	3
7	Darsana-Darsanakhoh	2	0
8	Dhankhoh-Shergarh	6	0
9	Haripur-Makarikhoh	5	0
10	Dhansa-Suggikhoh .. .	11	5
11	Sarodag-Athan	11	0
12	Baddi-Dumarkhar	5	0
13	Tori Parari . ..	9	0
14	Sarodag-Lohra	9	0
15	Betri-Kadhahar	3	4
16	Barachhiyadah-Karketgarh .. .	8	0
	TOTAL	221	6

Forest roads under construction in 1963-64.

1	Nauhatta-Dahar . ..	18	0
2	Adhaura-Sarodag .	18	0
3	Khan-Harsoti . .	6	0
4	Goria-Bhurkura . .	17	6
	TOTAL .	54	6

VEHICLES AND CONVEYANCES

Vehicles used in the district may be broadly classified as (*i*) bullock-carts, (*ii*) horse-drawn *tamtams* and carriages, (*iii*) cycles, (*iv*) cycle rickshaws, (*v*) *thailas* (platforms on wheels), (*vi*) motor cycles, (*vii*) motor cars and taxis, (*viii*) buses and trucks, and (*ix*) tractors, besides railways, steamers and boats. The other means of conveyance of goods and passengers that are used in this district though to a negligible extent are ponies, bullocks, camels and elephants.

The total number of bullock-carts and *tamtams* in the district cannot be correctly given as the census of their number that is carried on by the Shahabad District Board is still incomplete Horse-drawn carriages are maintained in the municipal areas only. The number of registered cycles, cycle rickshaws, bullock-carts and *tamtams* within the different municipal limits in 1962-63 are given below —

Serial no.	Name of municipality	Bullock-carts	Cycles.	Cycle rickshaws	Tamtams
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Arrah	826	745	766	173
2	Jagdishpur	700	125	Nil	15
3	Dumraon		Not available		
4	Buxar	1,911	1,800	347	77
5	Bhabua	665	675	20	90
6	Sasaram	2,126	296	212	146
7	Dehri-Dalmianagar Notified Area Committee, Dehri-on-Sone	1,425	3,012	600	6

Besides these, there is a large number of cycles which have evaded registration so far. There are thousands of unregistered cycles outside the municipal areas. The popularity of cycles as a means of carrying light loads as well is evident by the fact that milkmen, washermen, bakers, newspaper hawkers, vegetable-vendors, etc., use them as a means of transport of their wares The popularity of cycles is also due to the fact that it can be plied in places where many other means of mechanical transport cannot be used

The statement showing the number of buses, trucks, motor cars and jeeps, motor cycles, taxis, trailers and tractors for the last ten years obtained from the Police Office, Arrah, is given below:—

Years.	Buses	Trucks.	Motor cars and Jeeps.	Motor Cycles.	Taxis.	Trailers.	Tractors.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1953 .	41	147	202	32	6	8	4
1954 ..	35	144	180	31	8	19	6
1955 .	41	164	208	37	8	22	14
1956 ..	41	186	219	52	5	19	14
1957 ..	35	264	241	56	5	21	12
1958 ..	46	349	248	52	5	15	17
1959 ..	45	564	227	59	5	18	11
1960 .	52	167	257	63	4	17	11
1961 ..	63	194	268	67	6	17	17
1962 ..	66	227	302	58	3	18	18
1963 (up to 31st March 1963).	74	351	322	82	5	24	27

The mechanically propelled and power-driven vehicles have replaced many of the indigenous means of transport such as horse-drawn carriages, *tamtams* and *palkis* It is difficult to find now well groomed spirited ponies drawing *tamtams* Elephants are no longer in demand as they are a great financial drain on the owner. Elephants no longer measure the prestige of the owner Bullock-carts have been able to hold their sway, because in the overwhelming agricultural economy and when probably only 10 per cent of the villages have an access by even a jeepable road Bullock-carts play a very important role.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTS.

The number of privately-owned buses, trucks and taxis is very large. Besides these the Bihar State Road Transport Corporation with headquarters at Patna runs three services up and down daily from Patna to Arrah and the Uttar Pradesh State Roadways runs two services up and down daily from Varanasi to Bhabua Private buses still ply on all the other routes They ply for the conveyance of passengers not only within the district but also to and from other districts.

There are trucks plying on hire which are registered in the different districts of the country These trucks are used as carriers of goods not only within the district but also for the export and import of different commodities from and into the district

A number of routes including destinations have been allotted to private operators running passenger buses They are—

Serial no.	Name of the route	Number of parties holding permit.	Number of vehicles.	Number of services.
1	Arrah-Sahar *via* Garhani	3	3	3 Up and down.
2	Arrah-Sinha Ghat	3	3	9 ,,
3	Arrah-Ekauna .. .	2	2	6 ,,
4	Arrah-Jagdishpur-Piro ..	9	9	9 ,,
5	Arrah-Jagdishpur	3	3	3 ,,
6	Bihea-Jagdishpur . ..	1	1	5 ,,
7	Bihea-Jagdishpur-Piro ..	1	1	1 ,,
8	Arrah-Buxar .. .	5	5	5 ,,
9	Brahampur-Buxar	2	2	2 ,,
10	Buxar-Chaugain	2	2	2 ,,
11	Buxar-Surajpura	1	1	1 ,,
12	Buxar-Dumraon-Kesath ..	1	1	1 ,,
13	Rajpur-Chousa-Buxar-Dumraon-Koath.	1	1	1 ,,
14	Dumraon-Nasriganj-Dehri ..	2	2	2 ,,
15	Buxar-Chousa-Rajpur-Kochas ..	2	2	2 ,,

Serial no	Name of the route	Number of parties holding permit.	Number of vehicles.	Number of services.	
16	Dumraon-Nasriganj ..	10	10	10	Up and down.
17	Dehri-Nasriganj	2	2	4	„
18	Sasaram-Dehri-Nasriganj-Bikramganj.	1	1	1	„
19	Sasaram-Dehri-Nasriganj-Kochhawa	1	1	1	„
20	Nasriganj-Dehri-Bhabua ..	2	2	2	„
21	Dehri-Bhabua-Chainpur ..	1	1	1	„
22	Dehri-Bhabua	3	3	3	„
23	Dehri-Mohania-Nawan ..	1	1	1	„
24	Chainpur-Bhabua-Dehri-Tilouthu	1	1	1	„
25	Bhabua-Dehri-Tilouthu ..	1	1	1	„
26	Dehri-Sasaram	4	4	16	„
27	Rohtas-Dehri-Sasaram ..	1	1	1	„
28	Kargahar-Sasaram-Dehri-Rohtas	1	1	1	„
29	Tetrah-Dehri-Bhabua ..	1	1	1	„
30	Tilouthu-Sasaram ..	2	2	2	„
31	Sasaram-Kudra-Chenari ..	1	1	1	„
32	Dehri-Tilouthu-Akbarpur ..	1	1	2	„
33	Bhabua Town-Bhabua Road-Nawan	2	2	2	„
34	Bhabua Town-Chand-Dharauli ..	1	1	1	„
35	Bhabua Road-Chainpur-Chand-Dharauli.	1	1	1	„
36	Bhabua Road-Chainpur-Hatta-Chand.	1	1	1	„
37	Bhabua-Hatta-Chand ..	1	1	1	„
38	Bhabua Road-Chainpur ..	1	1	1	„
39	Bhabua Road-Bhabua Town ..	1	1	3	„
40	Bhabua Road-Adhaura (Bus is not plying on it).	1	1	1	„
41	Nasriganj-Koilwar	1	1	1	„
42	Arrah-Salempur . ..	2	2	3	„
43	Sasaram-Malhipur *via* Beda and Alampur.	1	1	1	„
44	Bhabua-Bikramganj ..	1	1	1	„
45	Bhabua-Chousa-Buxar ..	1	1	1	„
46	Sasaram-Kochas	3	3	3	„
47	Bikramganj-Kochas ..	2	2	2	„
48	Bikramganj-Kochas-Mohania ..	2	2	2	„
49	Bikramganj-Mohania-Karamnasa	1	1	1	„
50	Buxar-Itarhi	2	2	6	„
51	Bhabua-Bhagwanpur-Adhaura (runs only up to Bhagwanpur).	1	1	1	„
52	Dumraon-Nasriganj-Kachhawa ..	1	1	1	„
53	Arrah-Varanasi *via* Sasaram ..	1	2	1	„

A cursory glance of the district map showing the roads will indicate that the district is fairly well connected with communication arteries excepting a portion to the north of the district which contains the *diara* villages in Barahampur, Shahpur and Barahara *thanas*. There is no straight road from Semari Police-Station to Barahara Police-Station. The very nature of the country there which is frequently inundated makes it difficult to make any stable road. This portion gets the impact of the Ganga river which is usually in floods during a part of the year. Similarly excepting the canal road running by the side of the Arrah Canal and its subsidiaries, there is no regular straight road connecting some of the important villages in Sandesh and Sahar *thanas* for the same reasons. This area has an impact of the floods of the Sone River The other area rather inaccessible by roads is covered by the *thanas* of Chenari, Rohtas, Adhaura and Chainpur This is the area of the range of the Kaimur Hills and borders Palamau and Mirzapur districts It is with a certain amount of difficulty and considerable expenditure that Bhabua has been connected with Adhaura by a fair weather jeepable road. Previously Adhaura was accessible by vehicles only through Mugalsarai by a road running through Mirzapur district. The terrains make it difficult to construct roads in this area. The economy of this area depends on the raising of some crops and jungle produce. There is no jeepable road now from Adhaura to Nauhatta and Rohtas The Dehri-Rohtas Light Rail way has been a boon for the exploitation of minerals and transport of jungle produce like bamboos in this area.

Bhabua subdivision has no railway excepting a portion of Eastern Railway (Grand Chord Line) which cuts through Bhabua subdivision Some of the portion of Bhabua and almost all the areas of Sasaram subdivision are fertile lands. Had there been a straight railway connection between Arrah and Mohania it would have opened up a rich rice bowl consisting of the areas of Jagdishpur, Piro, Dinara, Kargahar and Bhabua *thanas*. There could also be a straight first class metalled road connecting Arrah and Bhabua instead of traversing of two sides of a triangle from Arrah to Sasaram and from Sasaram to Mohania and then to Bhabua. The economy of the district and its vast agricultural potential needs this road. This will also improve the industrial potential At Dumraon a paper factory is going to be started which will use paddy straw as its main ingredient. The paper factory of Dumraon using paddy straw is expected to achieve success. There is no reason why at least another paper mill in this area in between the railway line or a first class road could not be started. In 1963-64 an Intensive Agricultural District Programme commonly known as Package Programme will accelerate the rate of produce and more markets will be needed. The Community Development Blocks are also charged with the obligation of opening more village roads and to give approaches to the villages.

As has been mentioned before the river ways are not being properly utilised The railways in all the three railway systems are always overcrowded. The public and the private carriers are not only busy but are usually overloaded The roads in the towns are congested and the traffic conditions are chaotic. The reading of the road census on Arrah-Sasaram Road shows that on the average every minute near Arrah 1.5 vehicles pass Patna-Arrah-Buxar Road can certainly take many more passenger buses. Arrah-Buxar Road has not got the volume of traffic as on Arrah-Sasaram Road and an investigation shows that there is need for more passenger buses All this will show that the picture of communication of the district though good is still capable of further improvement.

Particular mention has to be made of the Arrah-Sasaram road which is only about 14 feet wide and has a track of Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway parallel to the road and at a higher level of only about 4 to 6 inches. The trains on this line are always overcrowded although a good percentage of the passengers is said to be travelling without any ticket The carrier trucks, the large number of motor vehicles, bullock-carts, livestock and pedestrians make the traffic on this road a problem In order to avoid an unhealthy competition between the carrier trucks and the Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway the State Government have issued a circular* that there should be a restricted zone for five miles on either side throughout the length of the Arrah-Sasaram Road and that the trucks will not stop to load or unload goods The railway authorities complain that this circular is more breached than followed The Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway authorities report that they had been sending regular reports about violation of Motor Vehicles Act to the district as well as Transport authorities, Patna This is also corroborated by our investigators.

This road has to be broadened and road blocks are necessary to avoid accidents It is also gathered that there might be a considerable leakage of the realisation of sales tax by goods being carried on the carriers

RAILWAYS

The last *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) mentions as follows:—

> "Shahabad is fairly well served by railways The main line of the East Indian Railway runs through the north of the district, which it enters at Koilwar, where a fine lattice-girder bridge has been built across the Son. This great work was commenced for a single line of rails in 1855, and after many interruptions during the

* No. P2-208/63-T.—2815 of Political (General and Transport) Department, Transport Branch Patna, the 30th May, 1963.

Mutiny, was completed in 1862; the second line was begun in 1868, and finished two years later. The total length of the bridge from back to back of the abutments is 4,199 feet, divided among 28 spans of 150 feet each. Underneath each line of rail is a subway for foot-passengers and beasts of burden. The line as far as Benares was completed in 1862, and in 1869 the large importations of grain it brought into the district saved it from famine

"The south of the district is tapped by the Grand Chord-line of the East Indian Railway*, running from Dehri-on-Son to the Karamnasa, with a total length in this district of 53 miles. It is carried over the Son by one of the longest bridges in the world, which was constructed in three years at a cost of thirty-five lakhs of rupees, the total length is 10,044 feet, and it comprises 93 spans of 108 feet each A light railway runs from Arrah, on the main line of the East Indian Railway, to Sasaram on the Grand Chord Line . . . .
The Dehri-Rohtas Light Railway runs for 24 miles, from Dehri-on-Son to Akbarpur†. The District Board permitted this railway to use the existing road; but they have not guaranteed its profits‡"

The railway system in Shahabad district has had further expansion and improvement since 1924. A number of smaller railway stations have since been opened on both the Main and the Grand Chord lines of the Eastern Railway, the present name of the old East Indian Railway. The Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway section has also opened some smaller stations The number of rolling stocks on each of the railway system has increased to a very great extent. There are now many more passenger and goods trains on the railway systems than in 1924 The traffic both in passengers and in goods has tremendously increased

The Dehri-Rohtas Light Railway has since been extended to Tiura-Pipradih and now this small railway section runs to 42 miles in place of the length of 24 miles as mentioned in the last District Gazetteer. The importance of the railway communications since 1924 has immensely increased owing to the development of the industrial towns of Dalmianagar which adjoins Dehri-on-Sone. The railway station still continues to be Dehri-on-Sone which is the station for Dalmianagar as well. Dalmianagar is really a part of the old Dehri-on-Sone town. The Dehri-Rohtas Light Railway with its extension up to Tiura-Pipradih has opened up the untapped mineral

* Now Eastern Railway.

† Now runs upto Tiura Pipradih, 42 miles from Dehri-on-Sone.

‡ *The District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), pages 116-117.

resources of the south Shahabad district to a very great extent. With the exploitation of pyrites at Amjhore which is near Tumba railway station, the importance of this Light Railway will be increased. As it is, the demand on the Dehri-Rohtas Light Railway is heavier than what it can meet. The railway station of Dehri-on-Sone is of growing importance as the factories under the Rohtas industries are all being rapidly expanded.

The Eastern Railway has 12 railway stations and one halt for the section from Koilwar and Chausa in the Main line, kilometres 581 to kilometres 674 from Howrah The names of the railway stations and the halt are.—Koilwar, Kulharia, Arrah Junction, Karisath, Kauriaya Halt, Behia, Banahi, Raghunathpur, Twining-ganj, Dumraon, Baruna, Buxar and Chausa There are 11 railway stations and one halt from Dehri-on-Sone to Karamnasa (both inclusive) on the Grand Chord (from kilometres 555 to kilometres 641 from Howrah). The names of the stations and the halt are given:—*Dehri-on-Sone, Pahleza Halt, Karwandiya, Sasaram*, Kumahu, Shiu Sagar Road, Kudra, Pusauli, Muthani, Bhabua Road, Durgauti and Karamnasa.

The railway sections of the Eastern Railway intersect the rich rice area of the Shahabad District. Some of the stations connect extremely important *hats* and *bazars* and also serve some of the famous *melas* of the district. The large villages and towns served by the two sections have been covered separately. It may be mentioned here that the original name of Sasaram was Sasaram-Nasirul-Hukkam. Nearabout 1947 or 1948 the name has been changed to Sasaram. The significance of the original name has been explained elsewhere. Arrah, the headquarters of the district, may be described as the pivot of the railway system and is one of the terminals of Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway which connects Arrah to the sub-divisional town of Sasaram. Arrah is also the headquarters of the Superintendent of the Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway. Buxar has an engine shed and a Permanent Way Inspector is stationed there. Besides being a subdivisional town, Buxar is in close contact with Ballia District being separated by the Ganga river only. Buxar attracts a large number of pilgrims as well. Sasaram railway station is also of growing importance as the subdivisional town of Sasaram is expanding rapidly and is likely to have some industrialisation very soon. Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway terminates at Sasaram and there is a small section of seven kilometres from Sasaram to Tarachandi for the transport of stones quarried from Tarachandi.

Details of the goods and passengers handled by the main railway stations in Shahabad District have been given elsewhere. Here it may be briefly mentioned that the main items of goods sent out from Arrah, Buxar and Sasaram railway stations are grains and pulses, skin, livestock, mangoes and vegetables. Besides these, Arrah

and Buxar export fish and Sasaram exports stones and other quarry materials. The inward goods traffic at these three stations consists of coal, mineral oil products, cloth, medicine, salt, timber, etc.

Dehri-on-Sone Railway Station receives from the mills of Dalmianagar and the vicinity, bulk of cement, lime, paper and paper board, hydrogenated oil, asbestos sheets and stones for export The inward goods traffic of this station consists mainly of coal, petroleum products, cloth, medicines, salt, waste paper, gypsum, etc

Passengers and goods Traffic.

The tables indicate the turn over of the passenger and goods traffic at some of the important stations of the Eastern Railway falling within the district of Shahabad —

Arrah Railway Station (Eastern Railway).

Passengers

Months.	Inward			Outward		
	1961.	1962	1963.	1961	1962	1963
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
January	78,566	74,086	82 484	73,571	78,044	1,18,070
February	72,748	63,975	85,614	76,211	61,690	1,33,791
March	83,341	86,141	88,668	84,605	82,731	88,576
April	1,01,691	84 006	84,564	92,919	84,844	1,30,429
May	1,01,951	1,09,331	25,233	1 03,290	1,16,839	1,86,480
June	1,00,263	1,08,120	1,10 470	1,05,521	1,20,867	1,80,071
July	1,00,593	90,163	75,261	1,09,739	1,15,967	93,002
August	97,013	73,101	72,627	85,774	72,174	75,011
September	75,638	73,622	85,447	75,621	79,327	77,730
October	75,130	80,568	77,523	81,165	82,736	86,250
November	77,269	83,096	75,560	85,734	84,627	89,450
December	68,470	72,579	76,608	86,423	72,731	N A.

N A —Not available.

Arrah Railway Station (Eastern Railway).
Goods.

Months	Inward (in quintals)			Outward (in quintals)		
	1961.	1962	1963	1961	1962	1963
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
January .	29,201	25,105	25,460	718	2,072	1,835
February .	28,502	24,461	25,997	1,903	4,012	3,621
March ..	32,789	38,134	21,610	1,595	3,581	3,807
April	24,700	38,868	23,253	1,401	2,574	2,185
May	36,687	28,652	22,374	2,352	3,322	2,238
June .	30,351	41,929	27,336	1,241	2,967	2,029
July .. .	37,598	26,140	38,425	2,229	2,642	1,751
August .	26,620	21,245	47,855	1,579	2,184	4,142
September ..	28,035	28,816	20,149	3,615	2,118	1,260
October ..	29,629	26,347	23,546	1,801	1,263	5,230
November .	37,817	32,878	N.A	3 182	1,597	N A.
December ..	17,823	31,957	N.A	3,555	2,153	N A.

Buxar Railway Station
Passengers

Months	Inward			Outward		
	1961.	1962	1963	1961	1962	1963.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
January	58,800	45,378	48,287	56,327	42,077	49,438
February	58,450	37,236	43,829	41,496	36,037	41,562
March	51,938	48,455	45,544	48,350	44 874	43,475
April	56 384	53,674	50,911	[illegible],419	53,345	53,712
May	59,154	65,930	68,838	63,535	64,451	53,642
June ..	66,082	65,363	60,246	59,056	70,662	64,679
July .. .	48,166	48,274	46,615	47,890	54,310	50,105
August .	39,396	34,919	36,277	43,111	35,067	38,261
September .	38,939	40,788	36,076	41,981	40,901	40,793
October ..	41,983	36,751	45,533	47,899	43,140	48,126
November ..	44,384	42,976	40,031	48,920	52,347	42,486
December ..	38,001	33,262	40,813	40,840	36,168	N.A.

Buxar Railway Station.
Goods.

Months	Inward (In quintals)			Outward (In quintals)		
	1961.	1962	1963	1961	1962	1963
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
January .	16,219 40	16,490 33	19,290 00	10 936 87	16,190 86	19,856 00
February .	16,808.10	12,049 05	14,769 00	18,051 49	9,827 41	20 160.00
March ..	30,188.10	16,173 79	15,430 00	1,899 05	33,206 69	27,146.00
April .	3,567.42	14,155 11	27,849 00	16,614 19	29,216 66	28,803 00
May.. ..	18,053.20	16,252.78	20,601 00	16,005 45	25,854 28	14,410.00
June .	22,695.19	18,748 39	16,071 00	18,097.60	22,170 59	17,579 00
July.. .	15,306 76	16,643.85	21,193.00	13,883 95	11,830.64	10,638 00
August ..	25,998 75	18,808 28	26,763 00	14,521 63	29,690 61	8,434.00
September ..	11,437 85	14,030 95	13,776 00	8,799.83	8,783 54	10,394 00
October	20,832.25	15,035.33	11,966 00	10,426.78	8,308 63	9,358.00
November	18,131 00	11,250 00	29,827.00	10,392.00	8,904 12	8,585 00
December	12,765 00	16,778 26	16,272 00	14,425.00	8,579 96	10,772.00

Sasaram Railway Station (Eastern Railway).
Passengers

Months	Inward			Outward		
	1961	1962	1963.	1961	1962	1963
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
January	31,680	25,712	21,715	29,789	24,557	20,933
February	44,525	22,026	26,343	33,691	19,419	23,873
March	31,250	35,483	29,684	36,079	30,000	43,509
April	32,412	33 357	37,082	31,134	31,457	32,646
May .	26,804	41,911	32,983	31,652	38,995	32,528
June	39,925	35,306	28 536	33,504	64,722	27,409
July ..	29,433	27,323	27,493	31,633	14,243	26,110
August	29,228	21,522	21,373	27,557	21,025	21,497
September	32,942	26,928	24,611	27,715	17,535	24,182
October .	32,809	29,048	28,870	29,881	17,608	25,247
November	30,002	26,968	22,625	26,234	10,738	19,311
December .	24,294	21,509	19,540	22,260	19,932	18,152

Sasaram Railway Station (Eastern Railway).
Goods.

Months	Inward (In quintals)			Outward (In quintals)		
	1961	1962	1962	1961	1962	1963
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
January	20,308	20,496	13,828	58,600	14,566	17,352
February	19,375	12,608	16,479	5,732	18,152	14,776
March	18,660	12,295	6,094	8,199	21,015	17,079
April	15,505	12,733	10,405	9,924	13,260	17,220
May	16,320	15,034	10,134	1,052	18,454	7,613
June	17,526	18,256	14,266	98,990	12,704	12,922
July	15,825	16,998	20,452	96,595	13,617	12,734
August	13,900	23,797	14,038	5,357	17,180	1,643
September	7,542	13,850	23,704	4,944	2,810	2,725
October	68,701	21,792	N A	2,390	4,561	N A.
November	7,110	17,465	N A	3,698	2,662	N A.
December	10,311	20,136	N A	5,214	[illegible],625	N A.

Dehri-on Sone Railway Station (Eastern Railway).
Passengers

Months	Inward			Outward		
	1961	1962	1963	1961	1962	1963
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
January	48,074	38,974	45,342	30,511	49,458	59,551
February	46,872	37,726	49,152	59,650	45,510	58,746
March	47,406	58,490	48,841	64,349	74,156	68,879
April	48,117	57,045	54,456	65,748	67,785	62,078
May	51,922	62,571	60,676	70,369	80,121	79,640
June	51,208	51,186	62,121	74,613	74,430	73,336
July	44,138	47,270	42,702	71,269	61,658	57,609
August	42,526	36,251	45,686	56,005	48,343	50,309
September	60,046	47,429	50,770	62,159	61,853	62,503
October	48,249	48,928	55,038	65,063	59,108	61,808
November	45,224	51,377	45,085	57,465	56,786	53,451
December	42,134	44,559	46,199	50,246	45,844	52,705

Dehri-on-Sone Railway Station (Eastern Railway).
Goods.

Months	Inward (In quintals)			Outward (In quintals).		
	1961	1962	1963	1961	1962	1963.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
January	1,98,737	2,92,396	4,34,887	3,50,297	2,42,252	3,65,952
February	13,21,764	5,85,554	5,97,332	3,47,832	3,01,557	4,52,571
March	5,66,946	6,11,350	8,25,531	4,03,945	3,97,432	5,19,968
April	5,12,724	2,09,162	2,18,721	1,98,794	4,56,481	4,29,565
May . .	5,45,982	4,64,373	4,85,284	4,04,230	3,92,224	4,59,814
June	3,81,321	3,87,304	6,12,008	2,56,735	2,99,873	4,26,852
July	2,86,291	3,42,659	4,25,668	3,42,671	3,46,942	2,83,050
August	4,36,929	4,31,082	8,32,871	4,23,405	3,75,206	3,81,398
September . .	5,05,506	4,31,053	4,25,973	5,02,913	3,78,809	3,44,475
October	5,67,462	4,04,694	3,23,864	4,80,976	5,37,041	4,71,965
November	4,57,085	3,09,038	4,53,063	3,32,608	3,74,477	4,47,925
December	4,14,083	8,15,966	3,52,383	4,54,889	4,23,965	5,18,568

Dalmianagar Eastern Railway Siding.
Goods.

Months	Inward (In quintals)			Outward (In quintals)		
	1961.	1962	1963.	1961	1962	1963.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
January	1,98,737	2,92,396	4,34,887	3,50,297	2,42,252	3,65,952
February	13,21,764	5,85,554	5,97,332	3,17,832	3,01,557	4,52,571
March	5,66,946	6,11,350	8,25,531	4,03,945	3,97,432	5,19,968
April .	5,12,724	2,09,162	2,18,721	1,98,794	4,56,481	4,29,565
May . . .	5,45,982	4,64,373	4,85,284	4,04,230	3,92,224	4,59,814
June . .	3,81,321	3,87,304	6,12,008	2,56,735	2,99,873	4,26,852
July	2,86,291	3,42,659	4,25,668	3,42,671	3,46,941	2,83,050
August	4,36,929	4,31,082	8,32,871	4,23,405	3,75,206	3,81,398
September .	5,05,506	4,31,053	4,25,973	5,02,913	3,78,809	3,44,475
October .	5,67,462	4,04,694	3,23,864	4,80,976	5,37,041	4,71,965
November	4,57,085	3,09,038	4,53,063	3,32,608	3,74,477	4,47,925
December	4,14,083	8,15,966	3,52,383	4,54,889	4,23,965	5,18,568

Arrah Sasaram Light Railway.

The Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway line was constructed from Arrah to Sasaram connecting Arrah station of the Eastern Railway on the main line and Sasaram on the Grand Chord Line The line was constructed under the order of Arrah-Sasaram Tramway Company published under the Bengal Government notification no. 39-R of the 12th October 1909 and with the agreement, dated the 15th October 1909 between the District Board of Shahabad and Messrs. Martin and Company (now Messrs Martin Burn Limited of Calcutta) The District Board guarantees to supplement the net earnings by annual subsidy as may be necessary to allow the Company to pay a dividend of 4 per cent and any profit in excess of 4 per cent were to be equally divided between the Board and the Company.

The line is constructed of 2 feet 6 inches in guage with a length of 65 miles of which 61 miles are open for passenger traffic from Arrah to Sasaram and its extension to Tarachandi which is four miles from Sasaram, is primarily meant for tapping stone metal from Tarachandi quarries.

The line between Arrah and Sasaram was opened in the month of March, 1911 and the extension to Tarachandi in the month of November, 1914. The railway runs parallel with the Arrah-Sasaram Road.

There are sixteen stations on the railway, viz., Arrah, Udwantnagar, Kasap, Garhani, Semraon, Charpokhari, Dhanauti, Piro, Nonar, Hasan Bazar, Bikramganj, Ghusiyakalan, Sajhauli, Garh Nokha, Karadih and Sasaram.

This railway passes through an area which is the largest rice-producing area in South Bihar and supplier of foodgrains to North Bihar. The importance of the line is further enhanced by a number of *melas* held near different stations of this railway The most important *mela* is held at Gupta Mahadeo Temple at a distance of 24 miles from Sasaram. It is held on *Basant Panchami* day every year and is attended by about 10 thousand people.

Near Sajhauli Station Ghinawar *Brahm melas* are held in the months of *Chaitra* and *Kartik* every year and is attended by about five thousand people from South Shahabad and Gaya districts. A large fair lasting nearly a month is held near Surajpura at about four miles distance from Bikramganj Station of this railway. This *mela* is held near Jakhini Bhawani temple and attracts a large number of traders

On the occasion of *Chhat* there is a considerable movement of passenger traffic over this railway to Palmerganj in Gaya district via Sasaram.

On the occasions of these *melas* the railway runs special trains.

The goods traffic consists mainly of (*i*) stone ballast, stone-chips, (*ii*) rice, paddy and wheat from nearly all the stations of this railway specially from Garh Nokha which has some eight rice mills, (*iii*) sugarcane to feed the sugar mills at Bihta and Dalmianagar and (*iv*) Linseed for export

The inward goods traffic consists mainly of (*i*) coal, (*ii*) kerosene oil, (*iii*) oil cake, (*iv*) manure of all kinds, (*v*) timber, (*vi*) cement, (*vii*) stone-chips and stone-ballast from Gaya and (*viii*) salt.

The figures for passengers and goods traffic and the gross earning of this railway are given below:—

Year.	Number of passengers.	Volume of goods traffic. (In maunds).	Gross earnings (In rupees).
1920-21	5,26,609	10,49,470	2,89,000
1930-31	6,48,602	13,76,491	4,17,530
1940-41	6,35,355	17,18,360	4,54,897
1950-51	18,66,470	20,18,000	15,59,961
1960-61	22,74,609	11,28,360	19,57,439
1961-62	21,70,216	12,46,000	19,87,689
1962-63	22,13,266	12,03,000	19,93,915

These figures show that though there has been an increase in the gross earnings of the railway, there has been a decline in the volume of goods traffic which has fallen by about 40 per cent and is now nearly on the same level as it was 40 years ago. This is evidently due to the fact that the Arrah-Sasaram Road with its truck traffic has become a strong competitor to this railway. But there has been a phenomenal increase in the number of passengers carried by this railway The increase at present is about 400 per cent over what it was 40 years ago, for the railway is the quicker, safer and cheaper means of transport than other means.

Dehri-Rohtas Light Railway.

The Dehri-Rohtas Light Railway was opened in 1909 from Dehri-on-Sone to Rohtas a distance of 38.08 kilometres. This was done under the Bengal Government notification no. 24-R., dated 10th November 1908. It was constructed as a 2′6″ gauge line and

ran along the District Board road running from Dehri-on-Sone to Rohtas for which Messrs. Octavius Steel and Company entered into direct relationship with the District Board by an agreement dated 4th June 1909 By another agreement, dated 20th December 1924, between the District Board of Shahabad and the Company, the railway extended from Rohtas Station to Akbarpur (Rohtas Fort) Station. But the railway line at Rohtas was washed away after some time by flood So the railway continued to run from Dehri-on-Sone to Rohtas only up to 1958 After the construction of a bridge on river Osani between Rohtas and Rohtas Fort and under an agreement, dated the 30th June 1954, between the Light Railway and Messrs. Rohtas Industries Limited, a private siding for Rohtas Industries Limited, was constructed from Rohtas to Tiura Pipradih at a distance of 28 26 kilometres Under a further agreement with the Rohtas Industries Limited this siding was opened for passenger traffic as well in 1958 The total distance served by this railway now extends to 66.34 kilometres as against 38 8 kilometres prior to 1958. This railway was purchased by Messrs Sahu Jain Limited from Messrs Octavius Steel Company Limited in 1941

There are sixteen railway stations on this railway, viz., Dehri-on-Sone, Dehri City, Badiha Shankerpuri, Indrapuri, Tilouthu Bazar, Tilouthu, Ramdihra-on Sone, Tumba Banjari, Rohtas, Rohtas Fort, Baulia Road, Mahadeopuri Bhadara, Nimhat, Nauhatta Road and Tiura Pipradih.

This railway passes through an area which produces chiefly minerals for carrying which the railway was primarily meant. At the moment this Light Railway also carries a quantity of forest produce, particularly bamboos to Dehri Some vegetables, seasonal sugarcane and merchandise goods are also carried by it The chief inward goods traffic consists of coal from Jharia coalfields, gypsum from Rajasthan and mercantile and consumers' goods from various places. The outward traffic consists mainly of cement, limestone, lime and laterite

The figures for passengers and goods traffic and the gross earnings of this railway are given below:—

Year.	Number of passengers.	Volume of goods traffic in tonnage.	Gross earnings in rupees
1944	1,70,963	2,96,309	4,94,254
1949	2,64,505	2,09,373	8,27,696
1954	3,50,171	5,92,600	20,60,479
1959	3,27,609	8,96,128	39,97,620
1962	5,28,636	9,54,736	52,03,831

These figures show that there has been an all round increase in passenger and goods traffic as well as in gross earnings of the railway.

The area that this Light Railway serves is going to play a role of increasing importance in the near future There will be more and more exploitation of the mineral resources of this area and it is quite clear that this light railway will have to be further developed A broad gauge double line railway system is very much needed. It will also be necessary with more industrialisation to have an electric railway system Development of Bokaro needs more exploitation of minerals of this area.

Rail-road competition and regulation of transport

In this district roads run parallel to all the railway lines The Arrah-Buxar Road with its extension to the east and to the west runs parallel to the main line of the Eastern Railway throughout its length in this district The Arrah-Sasaram Road is parallel to Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway and hugs it The Grand Trunk Road runs parallel to the Grand Chord Line of the Eastern Railway throughout its whole length in this district The Dehri-Rohtas Road runs parallel to the Dehri Rohtas Light Railway All these roadways carry vast number of trucks which compete with the railways in the carriage of goods The main difficulty with the railways is that there is an inordinate delay in the booking of goods in the railways Moreover, the time taken in the actual transport of goods by the railways after being loaded in wagons is sometimes greater than that taken by the trucks Then comes the tedious process of taking delivery of the goods and transport of these goods to their destination by road after being taken delivery from the railway station Trucks load goods at the point of despatch and carry them direct to their destination as far as possible Thus the roads stand as serious competitors to the railways in matters of goods traffic. It is generally, when goods to be carried are bulky or for long distances which trucks are not able to handle then the railways are utilised for transport Then there are certain specific items such as answer books of examinees, petroleum and kerosene oil in bulk and molasses that are carried by the railways. Fish, livestock, vegetables, fruits and other perishable goods are sent both by trucks and railways There are a number of regular long distance truck services with headquarters in Calcutta and Delhi that will transport any consignment to the destination within a week or so.

On the Main and Grand Chord lines of the Eastern Railway as well as on the roads running parallel to them, the traffic is very heavy The trains as well as the buses run overcrowded so practically there is no competition between the railways and the buses on these routes. Rather it appears absolutely necessary in the interest of passengers that the number of trains and bus services should be

increased if possible so that passengers may not have to travel on foot-board of the trains or get overcrowded in the buses. There seems to be some competition between the Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway and the buses and trucks plying on the road running parallel to the railway Realising this the State Government have issued a circular* ordering,

"(i) Permits for goods vehicles may be granted by the Transport authorities on the route Arrah-Sasaram which runs parallel to the Light Railway with the specific condition (which should be noted in the permit itself) that the permit holder shall not load or unload goods anywhere within five miles on either side of Arrah Sasaram road ... .

.. ..

.. . .

(iii) No additional buses should be allowed to ply on Arrah-Sasaram . . .. routes" ... .

... .

....

Besides the regular buses which carry passengers legally, trucks, chassis and new cars pick up passengers illegally on the way and this requires strict checking

There is ample scope for both the railways and the roadways to handle traffic, goods and passengers. The overcrowding of the passenger trains and buses in the zones where both systems run indicate that there is ample room for expansion of both the systems and the possibility of healthy competition.

WATERWAYS AND FERRIES.

The Ganga which passes along the northern border of this district from west to east is navigable throughout the year by steamers and large and small country boats This river was used for commercial purpose since the earliest time and hence a large number of important towns grew up on its banks and Buxar is one of them. The last *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) mentions:—

> "The Ganges is navigable throughout the year, and a steamer service for passengers and goods traffic plies as far as Buxar. Of the other rivers the Karamnasa, the Durgauti and the Shuara are navigable only during the rainy season. Boats of fifty maunds burden sail up the Karamnasa to the confluence of the Durgauti; on the latter river boats can sail up-stream for about fifty miles; and on the Shuara boats of a hundred maunds burden ply up to the foot of the hills, where extensive lime quarries are worked. The Kao or Dhoba is only

* No. P2-208/68-T.—2815 of Political (General and Transport) Department, Transport Branch.

navigable for a short distance from its junction with the Ganges Navigation on the Son is intermittent and of little commercial importance; in the dry season the small depth of water prevents boats of more than twenty maunds proceeding up-stream, while the violent floods in the rains equally deter large boats though boats of five or six hundred maunds occasionally sail up The main canals of the Son irrigation system are navigable, 123 miles of canals being now open to navigation, and a bi-weekly service of steamers runs from Dehri to Arrah. The canal-borne traffic used to be considerable, but has suffered greatly from competition with the Mughalsarai-Gaya Railway This line attracts the traffic that was formerly sent along the canals and the steamer service which formerly ran along the Buxar canal had to be abandoned in 1901 The river and canal traffic is almost entirely carried on by means of country boats, some having a capacity of as much as a thousand maunds "*

Except for the steamer traffic on the Ganga, the observations regarding water communication quoted in the last District Gazetteer of Shahabad (1924) still hold good There used to be a regular steamer service of the I G N and R S. N Companies Limited between Buxar and Calcutta and passengers and merchandise used to be transported to the various steamer stations in Assam Bengal, Bihar and U P. But in 1957 the Company closed down the steamer service on the ground that it had ceased to be an economic preposition. The closure of this regular steamer service was a great blow to both passenger and goods traffic to and from this district. But now a fresh steamer service called Ganga-Brahmaputra Water Board Transport has been started This Board opened a steamer station at Buxar in 1960 to transport goods of all kinds up to Rajmahal. Only one weekly steamer plies up and down from Buxar to Rajmahal This service used to touch Sinha *Ghat* near Arrah town also but this station ceased to function due to non-availability of goods Cattle and passenger traffic is not allowed on this steamer service. The main exports and imports of the Buxar ghat are as follows:—

Exports—Rice, Gram, Paddy, Pulses

Imports—Castor oil, wooden articles and empty gunny bags.

The average goods traffic on this ghat is about 3,000 to 4,000 maunds per trip. The Ganga-Brahmaputra Water Board Transport Service is rather a poor substitute for the previous daily steamer service of the I. G. N. and the R. S. N. Companies Limited, which used to carry passengers and live-stock as well.

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), pages 117-118.

The details of ferries maintained by the District Board, Shahabad and the Revenue Department are given in the following lists —

Ferries under the District Board, Shahabad.

Serial no	Name of the ferries	Description.
1	Lachhuman Chapra comprising of 3 ferries, viz., Mahuli, Sheopur, and Dokti	These ferries are on the Ganga and are leased every year by the District Board The lessee provides the boats.
2	Telpa—Ekauna	A joint ferry between District Board, Shahabad and Chapra Municipality settled alternately by each other The ferry is on the Ganga The lessee provides the boat
3	Koilwai—Suraundha	The ferry is on the Sone and leased by the District Board, Shahabad every year The lessee provides the boat
4	Bahiara	Ditto
5	Panduri (Labadna) ..	Ditto
6	Darihat . .	Ditto
7	Tilouthoo . ..	Ditto
8	Kaithi	Ditto
9	Dehri	Ditto
10	Bandu	Ditto
11	Nasriganj . ..	The ferry is on the Sone It is under the control and management of the Daudnagar Municipality of Gaya district
12	Kakrait	The ferry is on the river Karamnasa The lessee provides the boat
13	Jahanabad	The ferry is on the river Durgauti It is leased every year by the District Board. The lessee provides the boats.

Serial no.	Name of the ferries.	Description.
14	Kochani ..	The ferry is on the river Kochani in Buxar Subdivision on Dhansoin-Manoharpur Road It is leased every year by the District Board The lessee provides the boats
15	Gaura Nullah	The ferry is on a nallah near Gaura village in Sadar Subdivision on Jugdishpur-Lalganj ghat road It is leased every year by the District Board The lessee has to provide boats.
16	Sinha	The ferry is on the river Ganga It is leased every year by the District Board The lessee provides boats.

Ferries controlled by the Revenue Department directly.

Serial no.	Name of the ferry.	Name of the river where *ghat* is situated.	Name of the village where *ghat* is situated.	Name of the Anchal.	Subdivision.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Parasi ghat .	Sone	Parasi	Nasriganj	Sasaram.
2	Jamalpur ghat	Do.	Jamalpur	Ditto	Ditto.
3	Mahadeva ghat	Do. .	Mahadeva .	Ditto	Ditto.
4	Mangraon ghat .	Do.	Mangraon	Ditto ..	Ditto
5	Kaithi ghat .	Do .	Kaithi .	Ditto	Ditto
6	Chhitratar ghat	Kudra	Chhitratar	Chenari	Ditto.
7	Tenua ghat .	Durgauti	Baniadih	Ditto	Ditto.
8	Chakar ghat	Ditto	Banauli	Ditto	Ditto.
9	Bhadesa ghat .	Sone	Bhadesa	Rohtas	Ditto.
10	Samahuta ghat .	Do.	Samahuta	Ditto	Ditto
11	Jamuon ghat .	Do.	Nawadih Jamuon.	Ditto	Ditto
12	Akbarpur ghat	Do.	Akbarpur	Ditto	Ditto.
13	Osni ghat	Do.	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.
14	Kasigaon ghat	Do	Kasigaon	Ditto	Ditto.
15	Tumba ghat .	Do.	Tumba	Ditto	Ditto.
16	Danwar	Do.	Danwar	Bikramganj	Ditto.
17	Jadunathpur	Do.	Jadunathpur	Rohtas	Ditto.
18	Nawadih ghat	Do	Nawadih	Ditto	Ditto.
19	Purcha ghat	Do	Purcha	Ditto.	Ditto.

Serial no.	Name of the ferry.	Name of the river where *ghat* is situated.	Name of the village where *ghat* is situated.	Name of the Anchal.	Subdivision.
1	2	3	4	5	6
20	Parania ghat ..	Sone	Parania	Rohtas	Sasaram.
21	Tiura ghat	Do.	Tiura	Ditto	Ditto.
22	Nauhatta ghat	Do	Nauhatta	Ditto	Ditto
23	Uli ghat . ..	Do.	Uli .	Ditto	Ditto.
24	Daranagar ghat ..	Do	Daranagar	Ditto	Ditto.
25	Antidih ghat ..	Karamnasa	Antidih	Ramgarh	Bhabua.
26	Sarai ghat .. .	Ditto	Sarai	Ditto	Ditto.
27	Nonar ghat ..	Ditto	Nonar	Ditto	Ditto
28	Panjraon ghat ..	Dharmawati	Panjraon	Ditto	Ditto.
29	Barra ghat ..	Karamnasa	Baraura	Ditto	Ditto.
30	Sihani ghat.. ..	Ditto	Paraipur	Ditto	Ditto.
31	Akarhi ghat ..	Durgawati	Oreadih Akarhi	Ditto	Ditto
32	Chhotabarahi ghat ..	Karamnasa	Chhotabarahi	Ditto	Ditto
33	Akhani ghat ..	Ditto	Akhani	Ditto	Ditto.
34	Kariram ghat ..	Ditto	Kariram	Ditto	Ditto.
35	Sabra ghat .	Durgauti	Sabra	Bhabua	Ditto.
36	Nimej ghat	Dharmawati	Nimej .	Brahampur	Buxar
37	Bhariar ghat	Ditto	Bhariar	Ditto	Ditto.
38	Garhatta ghat .	Ditto	Garhatta Kalan	Ditto	Ditto.
39	Kothiya ghat	Ditto	Kothiya Dhandha.	Ditto	Ditto
40	Itarhi ghat .	Thora	Itarhi ..	Itarhi	Ditto.
41	Saraiya ghat	Do.	Saraiya	Ditto	Ditto.
42	Siktauna ghat .	Do	Siktauna	Ditto	Ditto.
43	Saut ghat .	Do.	Sant	Ditto	Ditto.
44	Nauratan ghat ..	Bhojpur Dah.	Bhojpur Jadid	Dumraon	Ditto.
45	Sinha ghat ..	Ganga	Sinha .	Barhara	Sadar
46	Alakhitola ghat ..	Do.	Nathmalpur	Ditto	Do
47	Keshopur ghat .	Do.	Ditto	Ditto	Do.
48	Gangi ghat ..	Gangi	Arrah ..	Arrah	Do.

The lessees of these ferries provide boats at the respective *ghats* leased out to them

At Ramrekha Ghat in Buxar town there is a pontoon bridge connecting Ram Rekha Ghat with Ujjiar Ghat in Ballia district of Uttar Pradesh The bridge is under the control of Uttar Pradesh Government The bridge functions from October to June only The average daily traffic on this bridge is about 1,000 passengers, 25 bullock-carts and 12 cars The bridge is about 3½ furlongs long and is well maintained

Between June and September the crossing is made by a steamer launch provided by the Uttar Pradesh Government

Transport by Air

Shahabad is not on the air route of any scheduled flight There are four small landing grounds maintained by the Public Works Department at village Majhauan near Arrah, Buxar, Bhabua and Salia village near Dehri The air strips are used by smaller planes, private or State.

Private aeroplanes are allowed to use the landing ground on payment of charges leviable under the rules framed in 1952 These landing grounds are serviceable only in fair-weather

Ropeway

There is only one ropeway owned by the Japla Cement Factory of Palamau District operating in the Baulia Quarries of the district of Shahabad It is a private ropeway for carrying lime stones from Baulia Quarries to Japla Cement Factory. The length of the rope way is about 8 miles

Dak Bungalows, Inspection Bungalows and Rest Houses

The rest houses maintained by the Public Works Department, District Board, Canal Department and Forest Department are shown in the tables that follow They are available to the Government officials and non officials on certain fixed charges The number of tourists has gone up tremendously. In the holidays a large number of motorists from different parts of the country visit these areas The rest houses available are inadequate They are furnished and at some of them cooks are available. Hoteliering has to be developed yet There are no standard hotels even at Arrah the district headquarters. But hotels are of poor standard in almost all towns of the district and their charges are high There are *Dharamshalas* also at Arrah, Buxar, Sasaram, Bhabua, and Dehri-on-Sone and some other places. But stay at the *Dharamshalas* is allowed free for 2 or 3 days but the comforts are practically nil.

The accommodation now available to the public is extremely inadequate particularly at Arrah, Buxar. Sasaram, Bhabua and Dehri-on-Sone.

The district has got excellent prospects for development of tourism. There are a number of places of attraction from various points of view like *Shershah Tomb at Sasaram, Dehri-on-Sone*, Dalmianagar, Indrapuri, Amjhore, Banjari, Karakatgarh, etc. There are some very attractive waterfalls in the midst of beauty spots. During the rainy season some of the hills near Sasaram attract hundreds of visitors and some of them could be developed to attract the tourists Shooting of wild animals in certain forest spots with permission could also be a tourists' attraction Big games are available The district headquarters Arrah and the industrial town like Dehri-on-Sone are well connected with Patna, Ranchi, Varanasi, etc, and hundreds of motorists usually pass through these areas in the holidays There are no Youth hostels or cheap places for comfortable stay anywhere in the district excepting the inspection and dakbungalows which are usually crowded by Government servants and not easily available to the public. The statement below gives the list of rest houses available within the district·—

Serial no	Name of the Bungalow.	Classification.	Location.
	State Government Bungalow		
1	Circuit House	Circuit House	Katira Road, Arrah.
	P. W. D. Bungalows.		
1	Buxar Inspection Bungalow	Inspection Bungalow	In Buxar town
2	Rest shed at Arrah	Rest shed .	Station Road, Arrah.
3	Dehri .	Inspection Bungalow	On 338th mile of Grand Trunk Road at Dehri.
4	Sasaram . .	Ditto ..	On 35th mile of Grand Trunk Road at Sasaram.
5	Kudra . .	Ditto ..	On 364th mile of Grand Trunk Road at Kudra.
6	Durgauti ..	Ditto .	On 387th mile of Grand Trunk Road at Durgauti.
7	Bhabua .. .	Rest shed	In Bhabua town
	Banjari .	Ditto	On Telkap-Banjari Road at Banjari.
9	Rohtas . .	Inspection Bungalow	At Rohtas Fort.
	District Board Bungalows.		
1	Dumraon	Inspection Bungalow	On 35th mile of Arrah-Chousa Road.
2	Bhabua . ..	Ditto .	On 13th mile of Jahanabad-Champur Road.
3	Mohania	Ditto ..	On 1st mile of Mohania-Bhabua Road.
4	Akbarpur ..	Ditto .	On 9th mile of Koilwar-Akbarpur Road.

Serial no.	Name of the Bungalow.	Classification.	Location.
5	Nasriganj ..	Inspection Bungalow	On 53rd mile of Koilwar-Akbarpur Road.
6	Barhampur	Ditto ...	On 2nd mile of Raghunathpur-Naimjore Road.
7	Bikramganj ..	Ditto .	On 1st mile of Bikramganj-Mohania Road.
8	Kochus .. .	Ditto ..	On 22nd mile of Bikramganj-Mohania Road.
9	Kawai	Ditto ..	On 17th mile of Dumraon-Nasriganj Road.
10	Chenari . .	Ditto ..	On 10th mile of Jahanabad-Malhipur Road.
11	Chand ..	Ditto ..	On 7th mile of Chainpur-Chand Road.
12	Tilouthu	Ditto ..	On 77th mile of Koilwar-Akbarpur Road.
13	Saraiya . ..	Ditto ..	On 8th mile of Dumraon-Nasriganj Road.
14	Garhani	Ditto ..	On 13th mile of Arrah-Sasaram Road.
15	Parsathua	Ditto ..	On 29th mile of Bikramganj-Mohania Road.
16	Karar	Ditto ..	On 17th mile of Rajghat Karai Road.
17	Adhaura	Ditto ..	On 29th mile of Karar-Adhaura Road.
18	Nokha	Rest shed ..	On 48th mile of Arrah-Sasaram Road.
19	Bihea	Ditto ..	One furlong from Bihea-Railway Station.
20	Piro	Ditto ..	On 25th mile of Arrah-Sasaram Road.
21	Khaira	Ditto ..	On 29th mile of Koilwar-Akbarpur Road.
22	Arrah	Dak Bungalow ..	On Arrah Station-Gopali Chowk Road.
23	Sasaram	Ditto ..	At Sasaram town
24	Buxar	Ditto ..	At Buxar town.

Serial no.	Name of the Bungalow.	Classification.	Location.
		Canal Bungalows.	
1	Piro	Inspection Bungalow	Piro.
2	Jamrore	Ditto	Jamrore.
3	Pakri	Ditto	Pakri.
4	Ramnagar	Ditto	Ramnagar.
5	Chounri	Ditto	Chounri.
6	Baligaon	Ditto	Baligaon.
7	Lahijore	Ditto	Lahijore.
8	Chandi	Ditto	Chandi.
9	Danwar	Ditto	Danwar.
10	Harpur	Ditto	Harpur.
11	Sandesh	Ditto	Sandesh.
12	Chibilia	Ditto	Chibilia.
13	Nasriganj	Ditto	Nasriganj.
14	Jaseri	Ditto	Jaseri.
15	Koath	Ditto	Koath.
16	Siddhipur	Ditto	Siddhipur.
17	Akalupur	Ditto	Akalupur.
18	Raghunathpur	Ditto	Raghunathpur.
19	Agiaon	Ditto	Agiaon.
20	Jamrore	Ditto	Jamrore.
21	Jainagra	Ditto	Jainagra.
22	Araila	Ditto	Araila.
23	Nokha	Ditto	Nokha.
24	Gunsej	Ditto	Gunsej.
25	Sikroul	Ditto	Sikroul.
26	Pasahara	Ditto	Pasahara.
27	Saisar	Ditto	Saisar.
28	Baseoan	Ditto	Baseoan.

Serial no.	Name of the Bungalow.	Classification.	Location.
29	Dhangain	Inspection Bungalow	Dhangain.
30	Rampur	Ditto	Rampur.
31	Baghaila	Ditto	Baghaila.
32	Dumraon	Rest shed	Dumraon.
33	Lathan	Ditto	Lathan.
34	Semraon	Ditto	Semraon.
35	Bihea	Ditto	Bihea.
36	Karath	Ditto	Karath.
37	Durgadih	Ditto	Durgadih.
38	Moranpur	Ditto	Moranpur
39	Ragia	Ditto	Ragia.
40	Warsi	Ditto	Warsi

Forest Bungalows.

1	Karketgarh	Rest shed	On 12th mile of Kalyanpur-Kamaharia Road.
2	Rehal	Ditto	On 14th mile of Samhauta-Adhaura Road.
3	Dhobahar	Ditto	On 5th mile of Tarachandi-Budhua Road.
4	Chutia	Ditto	On 16th mile of Akbarpur-Garadag Road.

POSTAL COMMUNICATION.

The Superintendent of Post Offices with headquarters at Arrah is the head of the Postal Department, which is under a Central Ministry. The Superintendent of Post Offices, Shahabad Postal Division, is assisted by five Inspectors, the headquarters of the three Inspectors is at Arrah and of the two Inspectors is at Sasaram and Dalmianagar respectively Besides them there is one complaint Inspector whose headquarters is at Arrah. The total length of the Postal Communication in 1963 is 1,958 Kilometres in the district distributed as follows:—By Railways—342 Kilometers, By Motor buses—16 Kilometres, By Horse drawn *ekka*—10 Kilometres, By Cycle-runners—501 Kilometres, By Foot runners—1,089 Kilometres.

Arrah and Sasaram are the two Head Post Offices in Shahabad Postal Division There are 78 sub-post offices and 499 branch post offices Arrah Head Post Office has sub-post offices at the following places:—Agiaon, Arrah Chowk. Arrah Nawadah, Barhampur, Barhara, Benwalia, Bihea, Buxar, Buxar Gajadharganj, Buxar Jail, Chandwa, Chausa, Dhamar, Dumraon, Dumri, Garhani, H. D. Jain College, Hasanbazar, Hitwarajpur, Itarhi, Jagdishpur, Kasap, Kayamnagar, Koilwar, Murar, Piro, Raghunathpur, Shahabad District Board, Shahpurpatti, Sheoganj, Simri, Sinha, Sohnipatti, Umraoganj, Sirpalpur, Jitaura, Nawanagar, Naya Mohammadpur,

Noaon, Sahar, Hariana Cattle Farm, Lauhar Farna, M. V. Mahavidyalaya, Narhi Chandi and Waliganj, Banjari, Baulia, Bhabua, Bikramganj, Chainpur, Chenari, Dalmianagar, Darihat, Dehri-on-Sone, Dehri R S., Denara, Durgauati, Garh Nokha, Hatta, Indrapuri, Karaghar, Koath, Kochas, Kudra, Kudiabazar, Meari Bazar, Mohania, Nasrignj, Natwar, Rajpur, Rohtas, Sasaram Bazar, Sasaram Local Board, Surajpura, Tilouthu, Akorhi Bazar, Sanjhauli and Sheo Sagar are under Sasaram Head Post Office.

The 499 branch post offices are located at villages. They serve the neighbouring villages also Some of the branch post offices are located where there are police-stations and block offices.

In all the post offices including branch post offices ordinary postal work including money-orders but excepting Savings Bank transactions are conducted. All the sub-post offices conduct savings bank business work National Savings Certificates are not sold at any extra Departmental sub-offices.

870 villages have got two deliveries in a week and 799 villages have got three deliveries in a week. Many of the villages do not get more than one delivery in a week. But bigger and important villages have got daily delivery in the district. Efforts are being made to open a post-office in every village having a population of 2,000 persons or more and also to give postal facilities at every five miles.

The following statistics indicate the average weekly postal business done in 1961-62 and 1962-63:—

	1961-62.	1962-63.
(1) Average weekly number of articles delivered.	16,342	17,810
(2) Average weekly number of Money-orders issued.	2,141	3,192
(3) Average weekly number of Money orders paid.	6,550	7,884
(4) Average weekly number of Savings Bank Deposits.	1,337	2,421
(5) Average weekly number of Savings Bank withdrawals.	878	910
(6) Average number of National Savings Certificates issued.	299	423
(7) Average number of National Savings Certificates discharged.	52	61

TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES.

There are 70 Postal Telegraph Offices from where telegrams can be sent and received in the district. They are viz., Agiaon, Arrah Chowk, Arrah Nawadah, Brahampur, Barhwara, Benwalia, Bihea, Buxar, Buxar Gajadharganj, Chandwa, Chausa, Dumraon, Dumri, Garhani, Hasanbazar, Hitwarajpur, Itarhi, Jagdishpur, Koilwar, Murar, Piro, Raghunathpur, Shahpur Patti, Simri, Sinha, Nawanagar, Noaon, Sahar, Banjari, Bhabua, Bikramganj, Chainpur, Chenari, Dalmianagar, Dehri-on-Sone, Dimra, Durgauti, Garhnokha, Hatta, Indrapuri, Karaghar, Koath, Kochas, Kudra, Mohania, Nasriganj, Natwar, Rohtas, Sasaram Bazar, Surajpura, Tilouthu, purchor, Darauli, Adhaura, Bhagwanpur, Ramgarh and Kalyanpur. Danwar, Bihta, English, Tarari, Barkagaon, Karath, Dawath, Rai purchor, Darauli, Adhaura, Bhagwanpur, Ramgarh and Kalyanpur.

For easy and quick communication for Government, business-men and public there are 11 Telephone Exchanges in the district. The details of the different Exchanges functioning in the district are given below.—

Name of the Telephone Exchange.	Type.	Capacity	Working connections.
		lines	
1. Koilwar ..	Small Automatic Exchange	25	4
2. Arrah ..	Central Battery Manual System.	300	219+27 extensions.
3. Bikramganj .	Small Automatic Exchange	25	13
4. Nokha ..	Ditto ..	25	12+1 extension.
5. Bihea ..	Ditto .	25	13
6. Dumraon ..	Central Battery Manual System.	50	23+1 extension.
7. Buxar ..	Ditto .	200	95+8 extensions.
8. Sasaram ..	Ditto ..	150	150+8 extensions.
9. Bhabua ..	Small Automatic Exchange	25	25+1 extension.
10. Mohania .	Magnet System ..	50	22+1 extension.
11. Dalmianagar	Central Battery Manual System.	200	151+38 extensions.

The small Automatic Exchanges, viz., Koilwar, Bikramganj and Bihea are connected with Arrah. Telephone Exchange for trunk purposes at Nokha, Bhabua and Mohania are connected with Sasaram Telephone Exchange The Arrah Telephone Exchange is going to be an Automatic Telephone Exchange very soon.

There are 50 public call offices in the district viz., Agiaon, Arrah Chowk, Arrah Nawadah, Barhampur, Barhara, Banwalia, Bihea, Buxar, Buxar Gajadharganj, Chandwa, Chausa, Dumraon, Dumri, Hasanbazar, Hitwarajpur, Itarhi, Jagdishpur, Kasap,

Koilwar, Murar, Piro, Raghunathpur, Shahpur Patti, Simri, Waliganj, Nawanagar, Naon, Sonar, Banjari, Bhabua, Bikramganj, Chenari, Dalmianagar, Dehri-on-Sone, Dinara, Durgauti, Garhnokha Hatta, Karaghar, Koath, Kudra, Mohania, Nasriganj, Natwar, Rohtas, Sasaram, Surajpura, Tilouthu, Sanjhauli and Sheosagar.

RADIO AND WIRELESS.

There is no broadcasting station in the district. People are getting radio-minded. In 1963 there were 7,927 licensed radios. The Public Relations Department had distributed 379 radio sets till 1963 in different rural areas specially to *punchayats*, libraries and schools.

The police have six wireless stations, viz., at Arrah, Buxar, Sasaram, Dehri Bihar Military Police Line, Dehri Police Office and Bhabua. They are meant for administrative purposes only.

ORGANISATIONS OF OWNERS AND EMPLOYEES IN THE FIELD OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS.

Shahabad district has no organisation of owners of means of communication. The employees, however, have their own organisation which are listed and detailed below to look after the interest of the employees in the field of transport and communication.

Serial no.	Name of the Union.	Registration no.	Date of Registration.	Affiliation with Central organisation.
1	Bihar Light Railwaymen's Union, Light Railway Colony, Arrah, Shahabad.	58	5-9-1944	All India Trade Union Congress.
2	Dehri-Rohtas Light Railway Employees' Union, P. O. Dalmianagar, Shahābad.	301	28-10-1948	Hind Mazdoor Sangh.
3	Rickshaw Mazdoor Union, Buxar, P. O. Buxar, Shahabad.	504	9-4-1951	
4	Martins Light Railway Employees' Union, Arrah, Shahabad.	839	23-10-1957	Hind Mazdoor Sangh
5	Eastern Railway Vending and Catering Workers' Union, Dehri-on-Sone, P. O Dalmianagar, District Shahabad.	856	7-5-1958	
6	Eastern Railway Licensed Porters' Union, Dehri on-Sone, Station Road, Dehri, P O. Dalmianagar, District Shahabad.	865	27-9-1958	
7	Bihar Martins Light Railway Mazdoor Union Congress, Arrah, Shahabad	888	27-2-1959	
8	Rickshaw Chalak Panchayat, Navaratan Bazar, P. O. Sasaram, District Shahabad.	1018	12-8-1961	
9	Rickshaw Mazdoor Union, Dumraon, P. O. Dumraon, District Shahabad.	1050	6-7-1962	

CHAPTER VIII.

ECONOMIC TRENDS AND MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS.

LIVELIHOOD PATTERN.

The main economy of the district of Shahabad is agricultural as agriculture is the chief means of livelihood in the district. It is only since the last three or four decades that there has been some industrialisation in one area with Dehri including Dalmianagar as the centre. This industrialisation has attracted a large population from outside the district. There are also a few other projects under implementation like the Sone Barrage scheme at Indrapuri near Dehri, the exploitation of pyrites with Amjhor as the centre, etc., that have attracted a few thousands of men from outside the district.

The texts of some of the chapters in this Gazetteer have discussions indicating the economic trends of the district. Such chapters are "People", "Agriculture and Irrigation", "Industries" and "Banking, Trade and Commerce", etc.

The statistics in the different Census Reports are relevant to trace the occupational distribution of the people. There is, however, one difficulty. The headings of the break-up figures under the occupational distribution are not the same in the different Census Reports. For example in 1911 Census Report the occupations mentioned are agriculture, industry, commerce and professions. In 1921 Census Report besides these four occupations, there is a fifth heading which is 'others' In the Census Report for 1931 we do not find the occupational details of 1911 and 1921 censuses. W. G. Lacey. Superintendent of Census Operations for Bihar and Orissa, in 1931, had given the analysis of the population recorded in 1931 Census under the headings.—non-earning dependents, working dependents, without a subsidiary occupation and with a subsidiary occupation. The Census Operations for 1941 were very much curtailed because of war exigency. As an economy measure many of the tables were curtailed and we do not get the details of the population under headings for occupation.

It is only when we come to the statistics for 1951 that we are on firmer ground. Different tables with occupational analysis have been incorporated in 1951 District Census Hand-Book which have been referred to later.

The 1961 population figures have not yet been published. But we can have some information on the livelihood pattern from another Statistical Hand-Book published by the State Government of Bihar. This book gives the break-up figures of the total population of the district under two broad categories, namely, workers and non-workers.

No reliable data could be had of the number of people from Shahabad district that has found employment in the main industries with Dehri as the centre. It is, however, gathered that this figure will be small.

It may be recalled that there is a marked mobility in changing the occupations. The agriculturists may also be teachers, lawyers or service-holders in the private or public sector. An agriculturist or a landless labourer depending on agriculture may take up the work of a rickshaw-puller or take a casual job in the industrial units when there is no work in agriculture. He may have been treated separately in the census. In the same manner persons engaged in the industries may have occasions to go back to his land and be a cultivator or be a part-time labourer depended on cultivation. But, nevertheless, the census statistics and the statistics mentioned in the other books like Hunter's Statistical Account of Bengal do make out a presentable picture of the occupational trends and the livelihood pattern.

Any discussion of the economic distribution of the district at the present moment will have to be recognised by the fact that there has been a progressive debunking of the feature of castes following the traditional occupations. When W W. Hunter collected data for his Statistical Account of Bengal, Shahabad District, published in 1877, there was certainly a much higher incidence of castes following their traditional occupations than now in the district. At that time a Brahman's occupation was either to do the work of the priest or of the teacher or to beg An extremely small percentage of the Brahmans might be holding services; it can be imagined that there was no Brahman who worked as a *bcnia* by holding a shop or ran the trade of a timber business. Hunter mentioned that no Brahman could hold the plough; and Rajputs who, like the Babhans and Pathans, look upon themselves as hereditary soldiers, were also averse to the toil of cultivation. Before the Mutiny of 1857, there were many Shahabad Rajputs in the army. The Kayasthas were the traditional service-holders, lawyers, teachers and acted as the *munshis* (clerks) to the wealthy landowners and merchants. The members of the artificer class, as a rule, used to follow their professions of the smithy, carpentry, tailoring, etc., besides holding farms possibly. The *banias* were petty traders; this class included the *byaparis*, who moved commodities on pack bullocks between the villages and market towns. The labouring classes included both those who held small farms and those who used

to plough and act as day-labourers. A *chamar* could hardly be doing anything else but follow his traditional occupation of working on leather.

Hunter had significantly used the nomenclatures "Agricultural castes", "Castes engaged chiefly in personal services", "Artisans castes", "Weaver castes", "Castes engaged in selling fish and vegetables", "labouring castes", "Boating and Fishing castes", "Dancers, Musicians, Beggar and Vagabond castes" and "Trading castes". Hunter grouped these categories under Hindus and mentioned them after two other sections, namely, "Superior castes" and "Intermediate castes".

The table below taken from the book "A Statistical Account of Bengal" by W. W. Hunter will give the details of the castes following the traditional occupation in Shahabad district*.—

Hindus.

(i) Superior Castes—	
(1) Brahman	1,98,631
(2) Rajput	1,85,652
TOTAL	3,84,283
(ii) Intermediate Castes—	
(1) Babhan	72,038
(2) Bhat	7,101
(3) Kathak	10,161
(4) Kayastha	42,374
(5) Kishanpachhi	33
TOTAL	1,21,707
(iii) Trading Castes—	
(1) Agarwala	1,069
(2) Agrahari	1,181
(3) Baniya	22,050
(4) Barnawar	96
(5) Kasarwani	2,806
(6) Kasandhan	547
(7) Khatri	352
(8) Mukeri	12
(9) Nauniar	1,160
(10) Rastogi	737
(11) Rauniar	1,879
(12) Sinduria	709
TOTAL	32,598

* *A Statistical Account of Bengal, District Shahabad*, 1877, pages 184-185.

(iv) Pastoral Castes—	
(1) Gareri	18,259
(2) Goala	2,14,605
(3) Jat	366
TOTAL	2,33,230
(v) Castes engaged in preparing cooked food—	
(1) Halwai	4,552
(2) Kandu	52,601
(3) Ganrar	7,544
TOTAL ..	64,697
(vi) Agricultural Castes—	
(1) Barui and Tambuli .	7,189
(2) Kamkar	8,827
(3) Keori	1,30,394
(4) Kurmi	58,540
(5) Mali	3,432
(6) Others	9
TOTAL .	2,08,391
(vii) Castes engaged chiefly in personal service—	
(1) Dhanuk	1,781
(2) Dhobi	14,568
(3) Hajjam or Napit	25,808
(4) Kahar . ..	43,227
TOTAL ..	85,384
(viii) Artisan Castes—	
(1) Barhai (Carpenter)	13,093
(2) Darji (tailor)	113
(3) Kansari and Thathera (brazier)	2,258
(4) Kumbhar (potter) .	18,931
(5) Laheri (lack-worker)	243
(6) Lohar (blacksmith) .	27,959
(7) Sonar (goldsmith) .. .	14,997
(8) Sunri (distiller) . ..	27,795
(9) Teli (oilmen)	41,440
TOTAL ..	1,46,829

(*ix*) Weaver Castes—

(1) Dhunia	26
(2) Jugi and Patua	2,914
(3) Tanti	8,156
(4) Tattanwa	1,057
TOTAL	12,153

(*x*) Labouring Castes—

(1) Beldar	9,003
(2) Nuniya	13,183
(3) Others	7
TOTAL	22,193

(*xi*) Castes engaged in selling fish and vegetables—

(1) Kewani	87
(2) Khatik	179
(3) Turaha	3,206
TOTAL	3,472

(*xii*) Boating and Fishing Castes—

(1) Banpar	41
(2) Dhimar	41
(3) Gonrhi	4,002
(4) Keut	706
(5) Machua	21
(6) Mallah	15,267
(7) Muriyari	6
(8) Surahiya	72
TOTAL	20,156

(*xiii*) Dancer, Musician, Beggar and vagabond castes—

(1) Gandharb	173
(2) Pawariya	16
(3) Ramjani	29
TOTAL	218

The statistics quoted by Hunter do indicate the livelihood pattern of that age to a great extent. It is true that Hunter does not mention the actual figures that followed the different occupations, but working on the thesis that the castes followed more or less, the traditional occupations or professions we can arrive at certain tentative figures that followed the different occupations. The castewise population

given by Hunter includes adults both males and females and children. Calculating that a family consists of five or six persons including one or two male adults and two or three children, we could make some guess at the population following the different occupations. This theory, however, cannot be pushed too far. Even at that time there was a somewhat mobility and particularly with the different castes associated with land. Thus a *goala* or a *teli* holding some lands would actually cultivate their lands and also follow their own profession of a milk-vendor or an oilman.

Hunter's statistics would show that the predominant percentage of the population derived their livelihood from agriculture. A lesser percentage followed industries or trade. At that time there was no estimate taken of the more specialised occupation like persons in public administration, employees in local bodies, members of the recreations, legal and business, services or those following Arts, letters and Journalism.

By the time the first *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* by L S S. O'Malley was published in 1906, the livelihood pattern had not changed substantially although the categories treated by O'Malley were different. By 1906 there were changes in the following of the traditional occupation by the castes. The weavers, *telis*, artisans and cobblers were mostly following their traditional caste-occupations. The pressure of the economic incidence disintegrating the following of caste-occupations had not yet been felt The census statistics, however, followed a somewhat different pattern in collecting the data. This is apparent from what O'Malley mentions in the first *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1906). He observes as follows:—

> "A large majority of the people are engaged in agricultural pursuits, no less than 64 8 per cent of the whole population deriving their livelihood from agriculture. Of these 53 per cent are actual workers, and these include 12,000 rent-receivers, 4,62,000 rent-payers and 1,92,000 labourers Of the remainder 17.7 per cent are supported by industries, the professional classes account for 1 9 per cent; and, as might be expected in a district which contains no manufacturing towns or important trade centres, the commercial class is very small, amounting to only 0.5 per cent The proportion of persons engaged in industrial occupations is larger than in the other districts of the Patna Division; it is approached only in the adjoining district of Patna (17.1 per cent), the next largest proportion being found in Gaya (14 per cent), and it is very much greater than in the trans-Gangetic districts. Native handicrafts have in fact not found the same home in the districts to the north as in those to the south of the Ganges; and it has been suggested that the reason of this is that after

the murder of Alamgir and the fall of Delhi in 1759 A.D., many members of the Muhammadan nobility attached to the Mughal court retired to the *jagirs* that had been given them in the Patna, Gaya and Shahabad districts, bringing in their train large numbers of artificers and traders who settled down in these three districts: while the districts to the north of the Ganges were still in an unsettled state, sparsely populated and only partially cultivated."*

Regarding the occupational distribution of the People Mr. O'Malley in the subsidiary Table III, Chapter XII of the Census Report (1911) has mentioned as follows:—†

Occupations	Total population of the district.	Number of persons engaged	Percentage to total population.	Percentage to actual workers.	Percentage to dependents.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Agriculture ..	18,62,998	13,41,732	72.5	52	48
Industry ..	..	2,29,376	15.5	55	45
Commerce ..	..	1,31,259	9.5	51	49
Profession ..	..	37,090	2.5	51	49

The next census of 1921 was conducted under P. C. Tallents. The occupational statistics given in the subsidiary Table III to Chapter XII of the Census Report (1921) were as follows:—‡

Occupations	Total population of the district.	Number of persons engaged.	Percentage to total population.	Percentage to actual workers.	Percentage to dependents.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Agriculture ..	18,14,229	13,57,859	75.0	51	49
Industry ..	..	2,06,311	11.8	53	47
Commerce ..	..	1,14,537	5.8	51	49
Profession ..	.	22,954	1.5	46	54
Others ..	..	1,14,660	5.9	59	41

From the above table it appears that there are variations in the figures for certain occupations. For example, the figure in 1911 for Industries, Commerce and Professions have a drop in 1921 Census while Agriculture moves from the 1911 figure of 13,41,732 to 13,57,859 persons. Secondly in 1921 Census, it has been shown that 1,14,660 persons are engaged in other professions while in 1911 this column has not been indicated. The obvious explanation is that there has been some difference in the interpretation of what population should be covered under Industries and Commerce. There

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1906), page 92.

† *Census of India*, 1911, Vol. V, Part I report (Bengal, Bihar and Orissa and Sikkim), page 562.

‡ *Census of India*, 1921, Vol. VII, Part I, Bihar and Orissa, page [illegible].

may also be some unavoidable mistakes in the enumeration. But it is obvious that the figure for agriculture does make out that agriculture has continued to be the most important feature in the occupational pattern of the district.

W. G. Lacey, the Superintendent of the Census Operations, Bihar and Orissa, in 1931 had not given the occupational details for the districts. In subsidiary Table II to Chapter VIII, of the Census Report (1931), he had given the number per mille of the total population occupied under different occupations which are given below*:—

Number per mille of the total population occupied in (earners).

(1)	Non-earning dependents	540
(2)	Working dependents	1
(3)	Without a subsidiary occupation ..	428
(4)	With a subsidary occupation ..	31

Lacey had left the number of non-working dependents in the different occupations under agriculture. The census operations of 1941 were conducted during the Second World War and as a war economy measure many of the tables were curtailed.

In 1951 Census the general population has been divided into two broad livelihood categories, namely, agricultural classes and non-agricultural classes. These two classes have been sub-divided into four groups and each group has three sub-sections. The following Table will show the break-up figures of each livelihood classes:—†

TABLE I.

Principal livelihood classes	Number.	Percentage out of the total population.	Self-supporting	Non earning dependents.	Earning dependents.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Agricultural classes ..	22,37,847	83	7,18,204	14,30,488	89,155
(i) Cultivators of land wholly or mainly owned and their dependents.	13,74,312	Percentage out of the agricultural population 61.6	4,62,109	8,57,978	54,225
(ii) Cultivators of land wholly or mainly unowned and their dependents.	2,53,035	11.6	73,140	1 63,384	16,511
(iii) Cultivating labourers and their dependents.	5,84,319	25.7	1,74,643	3,93,883	15,793
(iv) Non-cultivating owners of land, agricultural rent receivers and their dependents.	26,181	1.1	8,312	15,243	2,626

* *Census of India*, 1931, Vol. VII, Bihar and Orissa, Part I Report, page 208.

† *District Census Hand-Book of Shahabad*, 1951, pages 12—15.

TABLE II.

Principal livelihood classes.	Number.	Percentage out of the total population.	Self-supporting.	Non-earning dependents.	Earning dependents.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Non-agricultural classes ..	4,50,593	17	1,18,924	3,12,715	18,954
(i) Production (other than cultivation).	1,00,735	Percentage out of the non-agricultural population 22.1	28,041	67,159	5,535
(ii) Commerce ..	1,34,968	29.9	32,695	96,555	5,718
(iii) Transport .	22,334	4.8	6,142	14,981	1,211
(iv) Other services and miscellaneous services.	1,92,556	43.2	52,046	1,34,020	6,490

In the *District Census Hand-Book of Shahabad*, 1951 (pages 12-13) it has been mentioned that the principal means of livelihood of the earning dependents and non-earning dependents have been assumed to be the same as those of the persons on whom they are fully or partially dependent. A "self-supporting person" is one who earns enough to maintain himself. A "non-earning dependent" is one who earns nothing and is completely dependent on others. An "earning dependent" is a person who earns something, but not enough, for his maintenance.

The perusal of the foregoing table shows that 8,37,128 persons or 31 2 per cent of the total population (26,88,440) are self supporting, i.e., who are economically active persons.

The non-earning dependents who have to be supported wholly from the earnings of others, constitute 64.8 per cent of the total population. The remaining 4 per cent are persons who supplement the income of the family by their own earning which is, however, not sufficient even for their own maintenance. Under the joint family system most of the members of a family have some share in the landed properties so that the proportion of the non-earning dependents among persons engaged on the agricultural pursuits is smaller (63.9 per cent) than among those dependent on the non-agricultural occupations (69.4 per cent).

It has been discussed above that persons constituting 64.8 per cent of the total population are entirely dependent for their maintenance on the earnings of others. This large proportion of the wholly dependants is composed of children, old and infirm persons

and women. In the absence of suitable handicrafts and other village industries women are unable to supplement the actual income of the householders. But strictly speaking a good percentage of the women cannot be described as wholly dependent as they run the household, take part in various other work and even help processes of cultivation. On local enquiry it was ascertained that a large number of women of the agriculturist families particularly of the poorer classes actually work on the fields during certain agricultural operations like sowing and harvesting. The foregoing table also shows that 22,37,847 persons or 83 per cent of the total population fall under agricultural classes and the remaining 4,50,593 persons or 17 per cent under non-agricultural classes. This percentage of the agricultural population in comparison with the per cent of 1911 and 1921 is significant. In 1911 and 1921 the percentage of the agricultural population is 72.5 and 75 respectively. It indicates that the incidence of the agricultural population has been on the increase

It may be compared with the two districts of Palamau and Darbhanga which have according to the Census of 1951, 91 per cent and 89.1 per cent agricultural population and 9 per cent and 10.9 per cent non-agricultural population respectively. The comparison with these two districts have been made because Palamau and Darbhanga have also some industries. In Shahabad district the agricultural population is less than the said two districts but the non-agricultural population is more than in those two districts. The all-India average of agriculturist and non-agriculturist population according to 1951 Census is 68.1 per cent and 31.9 per cent respectively while the average for Bihar is 86.4 per cent and 13.6 per cent respectively. There is no other State in India where the predominance of agricultural population is so high.

From the perusal of the preceding table it appears that the proportion of owner cultivator, i.e., cultivators of land wholly or mainly owned (livelihood class I) is 51 per cent of the total population. The cultivators of land mainly unowned (livelihood class II) constitute about 9 per cent of the total population. Cultivating labourer (livelihood class III) form 22 per cent of the total population and 28 per cent of the agricultural population The reason for the large percentage of the cultivating labourers in the district is mainly owing to the absence of the alternative employment in the industries and other avenues of employment.

Non-cultivating owners of land and agricultural rent receivers (livelihood class IV) number a few. They constitute about 0.50 per cent of the total population. This class has now been merged into other sections due to the passing of the Bihar Land Reforms Act, 1950.

The non-agricultural population, as mentioned before, constitutes about 17 per cent of the total population which includes the percentage of production other than cultivation, commerce, transport and other services. The incidence of the low percentage of the population is due to the fact that the transport services have not fully developed in the district. There are a few long distance roads with buses and trucks running all the twelve months. Transport services are being developed and in 1961 Census probably the incidence will be higher.

Miscellaneous and other services include the residual class. This residual class will be discussed later in the section under "Miscellaneous Occupations". This class constitutes about 7 per cent of the total population in the district. Although a small percentage they form an important cross-section.

The details of the livelihood pattern as indicated in 1961 Census statistics are not yet available as they are still under compilation (May, 1964) But we can have some basic information regarding livelihood pattern from the General Population Tables of 1961 Census*. According to this publication the total population of the district in 1961 was 32,18,017 (16,16,732 males and 16,01,285 females). For economic purposes the population has been divided into two categories—workers and non-workers. Out of 32,18,017 persons 1,19,431 have been enumerated under workers. Thus according to 1961 Census about 35 per cent of the total population are workers and the rest are non-workers.

NATIONAL PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

For an all round development of rural economy, the Community Development Projects were started after the achievement of independence of the country. The Community Development Projects aim at an intensive and comprehensive programme, covering different aspects of the rural life, namely, agriculture, rural cottage type industries, education, housing, health and recreation, etc. The C. D. Projects aim at utilising the surplus labour force in the rural areas for development purposes The work is based on democratic principles and the people of the area are to be enthused to continue the trends set in for a general improvement.

The work on the Community Development Projects was started in Shahabad district on the 1st April, 1952 The first four blocks were started at Bhabua, Kudra, Sheosagar and Sasaram in 1952. Thirty-seven more blocks have been started till 1964.

* *Census of India*, 1961, Volume IV, Bihar, Part II-A, General Population Tables, page 80.

The following details of the Community Development Blocks in the district have been supplied by the Development section of the Collectorate at Shahabad:—

Serial no.	Name of the Community Development Blocks.	Present Stage.	Name of the block head-quarters.	Subdivision.	Date and year of starting.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Barhara ..	II	Barhara ..	Arrah Sadar	2-10-1957
2	Arrah	II	Arrah ..	Ditto ..	1-10-1956
3	Udwantnagar ..	II	Udwantnagar	Ditto ..	1-4-1958
4	Koilwar	II	Koilwar ..	Ditto ..	1-10-1956
5	Sandesh ..	I	Sandesh ..	Ditto ..	1-10-1960
6	Shahpur	II	Shahpur ..	Ditto ..	19-5-1956
7	Bihea	II	Bihea ..	Ditto ..	19-5-1955
8	Jagdishpur ..	I	Jagdishpur ..	Ditto ..	1-10-1962
9	Piro	I	Piro ..	Ditto ..	1-10-1962
10	Charpokhari ..	I	Garahani ..	Ditto ..	1-10-1962
11	Tarari	I	Piro ..	Ditto ..	1-10-1961
12	Sahar	I	Sahar ..	Ditto ..	1-4-1961
13	Buxar	II	Buxar ..	Buxar ..	2-10-1957
14	Itarhi	I	Do. ..	Do. ..	1-4-1960
15	Rajpur	I	Do. ..	Do. ..	1-10-1961
16	Samri	II	Dumraon ..	Do. ..	19-5-1956
17	Dumraon ..	II	Ditto ..	Do. ..	1-4-1955
18	Barhampur ..	Pre-extension.	Barhampur ..	Do. ..	1-10-1962
19	Nawanagar ..	I	Athar ..	Do. ..	1-4-1962
20	Bikramganj ..	I	Bikramganj ..	Sasaram ..	1-4-1962
21	Karakat	I	Ditto ..	Ditto .	1-10-1962
22	Dinara	I	Dinara ..	Ditto ..	1-10-1960
23	Dawath	I	Surajpura ..	Ditto ..	1-10-1962
24	Nasriganj ..	I	Nasriganj ..	Ditto ..	1-4-1961
25	Dehri	II	Dehri ..	Ditto ..	1-4-1959
26	Karaghar ..	II	Karaghar ..	Ditto ..	1-10-1956
27	Nokha	I	Nokha	Ditto	1-10-1962
28	Sheosagar ..	Post stage II	Sheosagar ..	Ditto ..	2-10-1952
29	Rohtas	II	Rohtas ..	Ditto ..	2-10-1957
30	Sasaram	Post stage II	Sasaram ..	Ditto ..	2-10-1952
31	Nowhatta.. ..	Tribal Development block II	Nowhatta ..	Ditto ..	1-4-1957
32	Chenari	II	Chenari ..	Ditto ..	14-10-1955
33	Durgawati	I	Durgawati ..	Bhabua ..	1-4-1960
34	Ramgarh ..	I	Ramgarh ..	Ditto ..	1-4-1962
35	Mohania	II	Mohania ..	Ditto ..	19-5-1956

Serial no.	Name of the Community Development Blocks.	Present Stage.	Name of the block head-quarters.	Subdivision.	Date and year of starting.
1	2	3	4	5	6
36	Kudra	Post stage II	Kudra ..	Bhabua ..	1-10-1952
37	Chand	Pre-extension I	Chand ..	Ditto ..	1-10-1962
38	Chainpur.. ..	I	Chainpur ..	Ditto ..	1-10-1962
39	Bhabua	Post stage II	Bhabua ..	Ditto ..	2-10-1952
40	Bhagwanpur ..	II	Bhagwanpur	Ditto ..	2-10-1957
41	Adhaura ..	Tribal Development block II.	Adhaura ..	Ditto ..	1-4-1957

ORGANISATIONAL PATTERN.

The Community Development Programme conforms to the All-India Pattern as adopted in the State of Bihar under the Department of the Community Development, now that of the Community Development and the Panchayat Raj. The Development Commissioner of the State is the co-ordinator at the State level. At the divisional level, the Commissioner with his headquarters at Patna and at the district level, the District Magistrate at Arrah are the co-ordinators. The District Magistrate has been vested with the powers of the "Head of the Department" over the finances and a large part of the administration of the Blocks except for disciplinary action over the staff not appointed by him. He is assisted in the work of co-ordination by the District Development Committee and the District Co-ordination Committee of which he is the Chairman and the District Development Officer its Secretary. The District Development Committee consists of the District Magistrate, members of the State Assembly and Councils and members of the Parliament representing the district population, eight non-officials prominent in social work and four Subdivisional Officers with headquarters at Arrah, Buxar, Sasaram and Bhabua respectively and all the district technical heads of the Development departments. The District Co-ordination Committee consists of the same membership as the District Development Committee *minus* the members of the State Legislature, Parliament and non-officials and with the addition of all the Block Development Officers. The District Development Committee is expected to review every quarter the progress in the development block as also on other matters of development concerning the district specially with a view to assess and enthuse public participation and public co-operation. The District Co-ordination Committee is expected to remove the administrative bottlenecks. The District Magistrate further exercises administrative control over the activities and the staff of

all the development departments in the district including the sub-divisions and the blocks. At the Block level the Block Development Officer is the co-ordinator of the development programme. He also looks after the revenue work in his area. He is assisted by a Block Development Committee consisting of all the *Mukhiyas* of the Gram Panchayats in the block and some prominent non-officials representing special interests, selected secretaries of the co-operative societies and other social workers. The technical officers of the development departments are *ex-officio* members of this committee. The District Magistrate is the Chairman of the Committee and the Block Development Officer its Secretary.

The team of the Block staff consists of the Block Development Officer, who is an officer drawn from the Bihar Civil Service, the supervisors and other staff of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Education, Co-operative, Industries, Gram Panchayats, Statistics, Medical and Public Health Departments.

The Block Development Committee with its five sub-committees on Finance, Agriculture, Irrigation, Education, and Public Works Industries Sub-committee is expected to review and supervise the development work at the Block level and is responsible for creating public enthusiasm and seek public co-operation. At the village there is a village level worker who is the vital link with the Block Development Officer and is expected to be the executive for implementing the various programmes.

Some changes are likely to be introduced in this district as in the other parts of the State for decentralising the administrative authority under the newly-introduced legislation named "Panchayat Raj Act".

This law envisages transfer of the administrative authority from officials to the representatives of the people through the Panchayats. It is further anticipated that the Block Development Officers may be relieved of their revenue work. The Minister at Centre Shri S. K. Dey holds the view strongly that a Block Development Officer cannot get the environs nor the enthusiasm or the time and initiative to do development work if he is responsible for realising the revenue.

It is obvious that the king-pin of the organisation is the combination of the B. D. O and the village level worker.

WORK DONE.

The table below has been supplied by the Development section, Arrah Collectorate and will give the details regarding the work of the Community Development Programme for the last twelve years (up to December, 1963), in the district under different items:—

(1) Distribution of Improved Seeds	..	32,49,413 maunds.
(2) Distribution of chemical fertilisers		12,45,678 "
(3) Number of compost pits	..	62,145

(4) Use of green manures	45,437 acres.
(5) Number of agricultural implements distributed by the blocks.	12,487
(6) Cultivation of Japanese method of paddy cultivation.	10,457 acres.
(7) Number of Seed Multiplication farms	29
(8) Number of Artificial Insemination centres.	48
(9) Medium Irrigation Schemes completed	31
(10) Minor Irrigation Schemes completed	314
(11) *Pucca* and *Kutcha* wells constructed	1,518
(12) State dispensaries run by the blocks	37
(13) Number of Health centres run by the blocks.	123
(14) Number of drinking wells constructed	1,817
(15) Number of drinking wells repaired ..	1,009
(16) Number of schools started by the blocks.	819
(17) Number of Co-operative Societies run in the blocks.	2,818

The figures cover all the blocks in the district and suggest an image of the work done The statistics of the table under different items have been accepted without any scrutiny. The figures, by themselves cannot indicate the "achievements' as the consequent impact (of these investments) in the form of agro-economic achievements cannot be located. It should not, for example, be taken to mean that all the dispensaries have got doctors or that the health centres are properly manned It should not be taken as granted that all the irrigation schemes have been producing results or the drinking wells are being utilised The figures indicative of the Japanese method of cultivation are to be judged from the point of view if the villagers are taking to them. The Development section could not supply the total expenditure in the last twelve years either in whole or the break-up figures under the different heads. No critical appraisal report was received from the department made either by the Department or by some other agency.

A rapid investigation was made by us into the working of some blocks and their impact on the tribal and non-tribal people in the district. Four blocks, viz., Nowhatta, Rohtas, Bhagwanpur and Adhaura were visited during the investigation The evaluation reports on the said blocks have been discussed. They have been conducted on our own and they may be of some help to get the real picture of the role of the Community Development Blocks in some areas of the district.

Nauhatta Block.

The Nauhatta Block was started on the 26th January, 1957 as a National Extension Service Block. This was upgraded as a Special Multi-purpose Tribal Block with effect from 23rd May, 1957. It has now relapsed into the Tribal Development Block, Stage II since 1st April, 1963.

In the Second Five-Year Plan 43 tribal blocks were set up in India out of which 8 were in Bihar. Nauhatta Special Multi-purpose Tribal Block is one of them.

The area of the block is 151 square miles out of which 40 square miles fall within the region of the Kaimur hills. The block is like a long strip with a width of only 3 to 5 miles and the length is about 20 miles On the east and north the Sone river and on the west the Kaimur hills mark the boundary. The western part of the block touches the district of Mirzapur in Uttar Pradesh. There are 58 villages (six unpopulated) distributed under 12 Gram Panchayats According to the statistics supplied by the Nauhatta Block Office (1963 January) the total population is 34,670 persons out of whom 5,081 are tribals The percentage of the tribal population comes to 14.6 only. It is rather curious that with such a low percentage of tribal population, there should be a special multi-purpose tribal block here The report of the Committee on special multi-purpose tribal block, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi, March. 1960, p 184, recommended that special tribal block should cover an area where there is a population of 55 per cent of the total.

The tribal population in Nauhatta is mainly concentrated in five villages, two villages, namely, Kamal Khairwa, and Chafla on the plains and three villages, namely, Rehal, Pipradih and Korhas are on the Kaimur hills. The main tribals found in the block are Cheros, Dhangars and Oraons The impact of the Community Development Block on the tribals and non-tribals was studied in five selected villages, namely, Rehal, Jadunathpur, Daranagar, Tilokhar and Nauhatta Some details for each of the villages studied are given below —

Rehal.

This village is situated on the Kaimur hills (about 2,400 ft. high) at a distance of about six miles from Nauhatta, the Block headquarters. It has an area of 8,312 acres and a population of 779 persons (387 males and 392 females). Out of 779, 710 are tribals. Among tribals the Oraons are in majority. The total number of households is 148 out of which 86 belong to Oraon, 26 to Kharwar, 8 to Harijans and 28 to other castes such as Baniya, Ahir and Mohammadans. The Research Assistants interviewed 25 persons of

this village. Besides, they had informal conversation with about 50 persons. The details regarding each person interviewed are given below:—

Serial no.	Name.	Age.	Tribe or Caste.	Total number of members in the family.			Land held in bighas.	Annual production (in maunds).	Cattle owned.	Debt.
				Daughters and sons.	Other members.	Total.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
										Rs.
1	Sheonandan Mahton ..	45	Oraon	3	2	5	15	120	17	Nil.
2	Bifi Mahton	48	Do.	1	2	3	5	30	3	50
3	Rajnath Mahton	35	Do.	5	2	7	10	80	7	Nil.
4	Maheshi Mahton	54	Do.	3	2	5	3	24	5	200
5	Ganesh Mahton	35	Do.	3	2	5	15 kathas	5	5	Nil.
6	Briksh Mahton	36	Do.	3	2	5	2	24	5	100
7	Matar Mahton	55	Do.	5	8	13	9	80	8	500
8	Bhachu Mahton	46	Do.	6	8	14	5	45	7	300
9	Rambriksh Mahton	38	Do.	3	1	4	2	16	3	200
10	Rahan Mahton	40	Do.	3	6	9	6	45	4	Nil.

Serial no.	Name.	Age.	Tribe or Caste.	Total number of members in the family. Daughters and sons.	Other members	Total.	Land held in bighas.	Annual production (in maunds).	Cattle owned.	Debt.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
										Rs.
11	Bhalelak	45	Kharwar	1	2	3	9	65	6	130
12	Dangai Singh	48	Ditto	2	1	3	3	25	2	60
13	Kailash Singh	45	Ditto	5	4	9	7	60	4	150
14	Baldeo Singh . ..	42	Ditto	4	3	7	7	60	5	100
15	Briksh Singh	40	Ditto	2	2	4	6	50	3	200
16	Kail Chamar .. .	30	Harijan	3	2	5	3½	18	5	60
17	Mangal Chamar	42	Ditto	Nil	3	3	3	14	3	300
18	Chamman Chamar .. .	28	Ditto	3	2	5	Nil	Nil	Nil	60
19	Ramman Chamar	40	Ditto	1	2	3	..	..	..	56
20	Ramjee Chamar	50	Ditto	1	2	2	..	..	..	Nil.
21	Mahesh Chamar . ..	48	Ditto	3	2	5	..	..	..	60
22	Ramdeo Chamar	50	Ditto	4	10	14	..	..	..	..
23	Rupnarain Dom	40	Ditto	2	2	4	..	..	..	..
24	Chhedi Mian	50	Mohammedan	4	2	6	10	80	8	400
25	Bhikhari Sahu	35	Baniya	3	2	5	1½	12	4	200

Out of 25 persons interviewed ten were Oraons, five Kharwars, eight Harijans, one Baniya and one Mohammedan.

From the analysis of the above table it appears that most of the tribal people are in debt. Out of 15 tribal families 11 had taken loan. So far as agricultural land is concerned only one tribal family has 15 bighas, five tribal families have 5 to 10 bighas and the other tribal families have less than 5 bighas. It was ascertained that the tribals take loan from the *mahajans* of Rohtas on an excessive rate of interest It was found that some tribals take loan and pay five maunds of paddy as interest per annum for Rs. 100 advanced to them. When a tribal cannot repay loan to a particular *mahajan,* he goes to another *mahajan* and takes loan from him and in case he again fails to repay him loan, he may go next time to a third *mahajan.* After the harvesting of paddy, the *mahajans* come to this area for realising their dues The Co-operative Society is not functioning at Rehal.

All the families of the Harijans were selected for investigation. The condition of the Harijans was found worse than the tribals. The statistics given show that out of eight families six are landless The Harijans here consist of two castes, namely, Chamar and Dom The male members of the Chamar caste are cobblers while the females attend the delivery cases. But their joint income is not sufficient and they often incur debt for maintaining themselves There is only one Dom family in the village which carries on the traditional profession of basket making, etc But the sale is very poor.

For the improvement of the socio-economic condition of the villagers the Block constructed four *chuans*, repaired five drinking wells, opened one grain-*gola* and one Ayurvedic dispensary and started two (one lower primary and the other upper primary) schools Two bulls and one he-buffalo were distributed in the village. One bull was killed by a tiger in 1962 and the he buffalo became a prey to a tiger in 1963.

Appraisal of the Development Work.

It was found that due to the construction of the *chuans* and repairing of the drinking wells scarcity of water particularly during the summer season has been reduced to some extent.

The Welfare Department is running an Ayurvedic Dispensary here The figures of the patients treated in the dispensary are 1,334, 798, 1,137, 330, 2,156, 3,346 in 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962 and 1963 respectively The main diseases from which the villagers suffer are fever, cold and cough, bowel troubles and skin diseases. The figures of patients as given above may be an exaggeration. This is a tribal area and the tribals still believe in the treatment of the diseases by local *Ojhas.* But a change is noticeable. The tribal

people have come to believe that injection has got some immediate effect to cure the disease and hence they prefer to get injected rather to taking tablets or mixture and are glad to pay Rs. 3 for one injection, however small be its real price. The general health of the villagers was found good and no epidemic has broken out for the last one decade There is an Allopathic sub-centre running at Nimhat which is to be shifted to Rehal. There is a section of Anti-Malaria office under the charge of a superior field worker. The spraying of D. D. T. and other works to eradicate malaria have been completed in the village. The grain-*gola* at Rehal run by the Welfare Department has done some good to the people. The details of the loan advanced and realised by this grain-*gola* from 1955-56 to 1962-63 are given below:—

Years.	Paddy distributed.	Paddy realised.	Percentage of collection.	Total number of loanees.	Number of— Scheduled Tribes loanees.	Scheduled Castes loanees.	Backward Classes loanees.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	M. s. ch.	M. s. ch.					
1955-56 ..	354 12 0	419 5 0	95	99	60	..	17
1956-57 ..	431 0 0	540 20 0	93	114	90	..	24
1957-58 ..	496 0 0	..	.	116	102	..	14
1958-59 ..	..	493 34 0	80	..	..	..	..
1959-60 ..	466 0 0	439 8 0	90	101	92	..	9
1960-61 ..	411 0 0	359 29 4	60	120	97	2	21
1961-62 ..	326 0 0	568 9 0	60	85	90	2	13
1962-63 .	540 29 0	849 31 12	92	131	99	1	30

In the year 1957-58 paddy was not distributed and in 1958-59 it was not realised because of the falling down of the grain-*gola* buildings. Most of the beneficiaries belong to the Scheduled Tribes and the percentage of collection as given above is good. From the Kalyan Grain-*gola* Sevak it was ascertained that the tribals, if approached at the right time (i e., during the harvesting period and before the *mohajans* approach them), are prompt in repaying the loan. The jurisdiction of Rehal grain-*gola* extends over other neighbouring villages too. The incidence of literacy as given by the Block office is seven per cent in the village. The number of students in the upper primary and lower primary schools is 48 and 31 respectively. But this is the figure of the students on the school register and the actual number of students reading regularly in the

U. P. and L. P. schools is reported to be eight and ten respectively. The tribals are not attracted towards education as their children are more helpful in adding to the income. Up till now only one tribal boy of this village could pass the middle standard examination.

Practically nothing has been done to improve agriculture which is the main occupation of the tribals. Due to lack of irrigational facility in summer season the villagers could not produce wheat, *rahar* or other *rabi* crops.

There are two beat foresters for afforestation purpose and five Forest Guards at Rehal There is also a Rest House of the Forest Department A new range, namely, Rehal Range has been created with effect from 1st January, 1964 and a Range Officer will now be posted at Rehal. A coupe covering an area of about 68 acres has been put at the disposal of the tribals for taking fuel free of any cost The tribals derive great benefits from the forest. They are entitled to take forest produce free of cost. They get *Mahua* in abundance from the neighbouring jungle which is their main diet for about two months as well as they also sell its surplus quantity. They also get *Pyar, Tend, Aura, Herre, Bahera,* etc. But the price at which they sell the produce is very low. For example, they sell *Bari Harre* at the rate of Rs. 2 per maund which is sold even at Dehri at Rs. 10 per maund. They sell *Aura* at Rs. 2 per maund. The tribals are also employed for the afforestation work for which they are paid Rs. 1 50 per day Thus the forest is the main source of their livelihood.

Practically nothing has been done by the Block to improve the communications. This village is connected with Nauhatta by a *Dagar* (village pathway) up to five miles and about one and a half mile one has to cover by ascending on the Kaimur hills However, the Forest Department has made some fair-weather jeepable roads which connect Rehal with Sasaram (40 miles), Adhaura (in Bhabua subdivision, 18 miles) and Rohtas (in Sasaram subdivision, 9 miles). But all these roads during the rains become unserviceable because of the very swift current of the stream. For four months from June to September the area is cut off. There is no Post Office at Rehal. It falls under the jurisdiction of the Post Office at Chunhatta which is at a distance of about four miles. Chunhatta is on the plain while Rehal is on the Kaimur hills. Postal delivery is very spasmodic. There is a Statutory Gram Panchayat. The Mukhiya of this Gram Panchayat is an Oraon. As the area is mainly inhabited by the tribals and the Harijans which have their traditional Caste Panchayats, the concrete work of the Statutory Gram Panchayat has been practically negligible. The people prefer to settle the differences or disputes through their Caste Panchayats. In the Block out of the twelve Statutory Gram Panchayats only three Mukhiyas are tribals and the other Mukhiyas are non-tribals. Hence when some proposal is put forward by the tribal Mukhiya in the

Block Development Committee for improving his areas, it is hardly successful. The Mukhiya of the Gram Panchayat of Rehal as he said, once proposed for providing the Chamars of this village with one *Angreji Baja* to improve their economic condition. The Chamars usually play trumpet for hire on the occasion of marriage or on some important festivals of their neighbours. But they have no *Angreji Baja* (a better type of band) and therefore, if they are provided with it, it would be a source of income to them. But the proposal of the Mukhiya failed.

No *hat* is held in the village. There are, however, seven shops in the village which deal in commodities necessary for day-to-day use. But for vegetables, cloth and other articles, the people have to go to Chunhatta where these are available particularly on the Sunday when a *hat* is held there.

There is a liquor shop in the village which is locally called *'Bhathi'*. The tribal population is accustomed to take liquor and the opportunity for its easily availability snatches away a good portion of their earnings.

Jadunathpur.

The village is situated at a distance of about 14 miles from Nauhatta. A District Board road running from Akbarpur to Jaradag (last village of the Block as well as of the State which borders Mirzapur district in Uttar Pradesh) connects Nauhatta with Jadunathpur. But this road is a village pathway for at least three to four miles between Nauhatta and Jadunathpur. This road is also crossed by four rivulets and some streams which make it unserviceable during the rains. This road is not jeepable even during the fair-weather. There is another road of the Forest Department running from Akbarpur (Rohtas) to Jaradag. This road is jeepable during the fair-weather and connects Nauhatta with Jadunathpur. There is an approach road from Nauhatta to the Forest road—a distance of about two to three miles. But during the rainy season the forest road is damaged badly by the swift currents of the streams passing through the road and hence communications through this road too stand still. Jadunathpur becomes isolated from other parts of the Block during the rainy season when the rivers are in flood.

The village has an area of 2,761 acres with a population of 153 persons (76 males and 77 females) according to the Census of 1961.*. The population in 1951 Census was 191 (95 males and 96 females)† which shows a decrease of 38 persons or 7.8 per cent in 1961 Census. But the number of households in 1951 Census was 21 while in 1961 Census it was 32. This means the number of households in 1961 Census has increased. The number of members' per household calculated on the basis of 1951 population comes to

* The figure of population was supplied by the Block Office.

† *District Census Hand-Book, Shahabad* (1954), page 258.

9 members which seems to be wrong and the population figure of 1951 Census appears to be over-estimated.

The castewise population with the number of households according to 1961 Census is given below:—

Tribe or caste.		Number of households	Population.
Scheduled Tribe	..	12	60
Scheduled Castes	..	4	18
Others ..	..	16	75

The Scheduled Tribes include 11 Chero families and one Kharwar family and the Scheduled Castes include four Dusadh families. Other castes include two Rajput families, seven Jadava families, five Kahar families, one Teli and one Mohammedan families.

The economic condition of the Scheduled Tribes is miserably poor. Out of the 12 families belonging to the Scheduled Tribes only two families—one has about 1½ bighas and the other has 2 bighas—have landed property and the remaining families have no land for cultivation. Out of the four Scheduled Caste families, three families have landed property One family has two bighas, the other has three bighas and the third has 11 bighas of land. Only one family has no landed property. In comparison with the tribals and the people belong to other castes except Rajput, the economic condition of the Scheduled Castes seems to be better. There is one Rajput gentleman, who has about 300 bighas of land, almost all the cultivable land around the village. The Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes as well as other castes have settled on the land possessed by him and most of them are rather tied labour whom he employs for cultivating land. They are not allowed to work in the forest by the land-owner during the harvesting or sowing season It was gathered that one Dusadh family was twice uprooted from the land on which it had constructed dwelling houses There were complaints of high-handedness from the land-owner

The main occupation of the people is to work in the field of the land-owner for wages during agricultural operations. They are paid two seers of paddy or maize per day. During the remaining period of the year they are employed in the neighbouring forest for cutting bamboo, etc, for which they are usually paid at the rate of Rs. 1.50 per day. They have also the privilege of getting fuel from the forest free of cost. The forest produce particularly *Mahua, Kend* and *Pyar* is abundantly available for consumption as well as for sale. It is a good source of subsistence particularly for the tribal population of this area.

There is only one lower primary school in the village. The nearest middle school is at Parchha, about eight miles away from Jadunathpur. The high school is at Baulia—30 miles away from this place. Both the places are unapproachable for about four months

during the rainy season.' The Census of 1951 recorded no literate persons in the village.* But according to 1961 Census. 11 persons were recorded as literates. But it may be pointed out that all the literate persons belong to only one Rajput family and thus it may be said that complete illiteracy prevails among the Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes and other castes except the Rajputs.

Development Work.

Two minor irrigation wells, two *Ahars* and two drinking wells were sunk by the Block. The irrigation wells do not serve the purpose as during the summer season they almost dry up. The *Ahars* are to some extent helpful in irrigation but that too only can irrigate not more than 20 acres. Therefore. agriculture mainly depends upon rain. The drinking wells are to some extent helpful to the villagers.

There are five culverts constructed by the Block on the District Board road passing through the village. But these as reported by the villagers and as actually found, are useless and do not serve or improve the communications in any manner.

There is a Multi-purpose Co-operative Society at Matiaon under whose jurisdiction Jadunathpur falls. But only two non-tribal persons could purchase share and have become the members of the Society. For becoming a member, an individual has to purchase at least one share (one share is of Rs 10) No loan has been given in this village from this Society There is no grain-*gola* in the village but the jurisdiction of Nauhatta grain-*gola* extends to this village But as Nauhatta is at a distance of 14 miles and there is again the lack of transport facility, none of the villagers has taken loan from the grain-*gola*. Six houses for rehabilitation of the tribal families are under construction The Post Office is at Parchha about six miles away from the village. A weekly *hat* is held in the village on every Thursday when necessary commodities are sold.

The Research Assistant interviewed ten persons, the details of whom are given below:—

Serial no.	Name.	Age.	Caste or Tribe.	No. of family members.	Land held in bighas.	Cattle owned.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Beni Prasad Singh ..	55	Rajput	18	800	14
2	Manglu Mahton ..	40	Ahir ..	5	..	10
3	Bue Mahton ..	50	Do. ..	3	..	7
4	Bhrigu Mahton ..	33	Do. ..	8	..	10
5	Ramdeo Chero ..	30	Chero ..	2	..	..
6	Fakira Chero ..	30	Do ..	2	..	5
7	Mogh Chero ..	40	Do. ..	5	..	5
8	Kali Charan Chero ..	45	Do. ..	5	..	5
9	Bandhu Dusadh ..	25	Dusadh	8	1½	..
10	Khubi Kahar ..	40	Kahar	7	2	4

* *District Census Hand-Book, Shahabad* (1954), page 288.

Tilokhar.

This village at a distance of six miles from Nauhatta is connected by the District Board road which is jeepable only in the fair weather. It has an area of 1,224 95 acres with a population of 1,278 persons as mentioned by the Block office. In 1951 Census the village was described as Tilkhare with a population of 940 persons (486 males and 454 females).

The population is composed of different caste men and the backward classes particularly the Koeris are in a majority. There are about 200 families out of which 30 families belong to the Scheduled Castes which include Chamar, Dom and Dusadh. About 90 families are distributed among the other castes. The village has one upper primary school and one library. There is a post office at Parchha at a distance of one mile. The paper shows that 16 irrigation wells, one drinking well and one *Ahar* were constructed besides repairs to two drinking wells and four *Ahars*. On investigation only three or four irrigation wells were found serviceable. A culvert made by the block authorities was found to have made the communication worse as no levelling was done to connect the road with the culvert. The main occupation of the people is cultivation and the traditional caste functions. The main produce are paddy and chilli.

Ten persons were interviewed out of whom five were Koeris, one Kumhar, one Mallah, two Chamars and one Dom Four Koeris and one Kumhar had lands and cattle. The economic condition of the landless families is pitiable.

Serial no	Name.	Age.	Tribe or Caste.	Total number of members in the family.	Land held in bighas.	Cattle possessed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Ram Das Koeri .	30	Koeri	10	10	3
2	Ram Narayan Koeri ..	30	Do.	10	5	4
3	Janardan Koeri ..	35	Do.	8	5	Nil
4	Deo Datta Koeri ..	35	Do.	6	20	4
5	Girija Mahton ..	36	Do.	12	.	..
6	Piyari Kumhar ..	22	Kumhar	10	20	..
7	Bisundeo Mallah ..	25	Mallah	12	..	..
8	Dasrath Chamar ..	35	Chamar	6	..	5
9	Jagdeo Chamar ..	40	Ditto	10	..	6
10	Gouri Dom ..	30	Dom	10	..	..

From the analysis of the table it appears that out of 10 families only five families have cultivable land. The other families carry on traditional profession such as Chamars who carry on the business of shoe-making, pig-rearing, etc., the Dom does the work of basket-making, etc. The economic condition of the landless families is deplorable.

Nauhatta.

Nauhatta village is the headquarters of the Block. Due to lack of accommodation the office was temporarily located at Baulia from where it was shifted to Nauhatta in June, 1963.

This is a village which was visited by Buchanan Hamilton on 25th December, 1812 He spelt Nauhatta as Nauhata. There are also some relics of a very old temple which is said to date back to the Hindu period. There is a statue of *Vishnu* on one piece of black stone about five feet high The deity is in standing pose on a lotus flower. The portions of two hands after elbow are missing. The statue has a sacred thread and a crown on the head It is said that the original building made of stone was destroyed in course of time and a new building was built There are some old stone pillars near about The new building of this temple is about 100 years old

The population of the village in 1961 Census as supplied by the Block office is 1,777 (933 males and 844 females) and according to 1951 Census, 1,530 persons (796 males and 734 females).* This shows an increase of 247 persons or 16 1 per cent in 1961 Census. The number of households in 1961 is 346 as against 228 in 1951. The area of the village is 1,229 acres.

The village is connected with Nauhatta Road Railway Station on the Dehri-Rohtas Light Railways with a road The distance from the railway station is about three miles. The road becomes almost unserviceable during the rainy season.

The village has one Girls' Lower Primary School, and one Middle School The number of students attending the Lower Primary and Middle Schools in January, 1964 was 35 and 132 respectively

In the village there are six shops which deal in grain and other commodities of daily rural life Previously there was no hotel or shop selling cooked food But with the opening of the Block office at Nauhatta in 1963 a shop has been opened A weekly *hat* is held here on every Wednesday but the sale is very poor The village has not been electrified but electric poles have been installed and electric connection is soon to be given. There is a post office in the village

Development Work.

For the development of the village the Block has sunk 59 minor irrigation wells and 21 drinking wells, repaired 18 drinking wells and five *Ahars*, constructed 20 culverts and one *Ahar*. During the investigation it was ascertained that out of 59 minor irrigation wells only eight wells are utilised for irrigation purpose and the remaining wells dry up during the summer season Most of the drinking wells

* *District Census Hand-Book, Shahabad* (1954), page 238.

have been sunk more to benefit some individual families. Moreover some wells were found without water even in the winter season. The sinking of the irrigation and drinking wells in such a large number is of very little use to the villagers.

To improve the communications 20 culverts were constructed. But on investigation it was found that out of 20 at least 15 were uselessly constructed and instead of improving the communication, they have made it worse.

There is a grain-*gola* of the Welfare Department but it is not functioning well In 1962-63 only about 41 maunds of paddy was distributed to 23 loanees

There is a static dispensary under the charge of a Medical Officer. There are one compounder and one trained *dai* Three sub-centres, namely, Rehal (at present at Nimhat), Tiarakala and Bhadara also function at present under the same Medical Officer.

There is also a Seed Multiplication Farm at Nauhatta functioning since 1958 Previously it was under the management of the Block but in 1961 it was taken over by the Agriculture Department and since then it is functioning under the administrative control of the Subdivisional Officer, Agriculture, Sasaram There is a Farm Assistant at Nauhatta The area of the farm is 25 acres and paddy is mainly cultivated

The Research Assistants interviewed 10 persons The details are given here:—

Serial no	Name.	Age.	Tribe or Caste.	Total number of members in the family.	Land held in bighas.	Cattle owned.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Gorakh Nath Dubey	55	Brahman	20	75	45
2	Surendra Upadhyay	56	Ditto	10	15	10
3	Chakardhar Pathak	61	Ditto	12	16	10
4	Mahabir Mahton	44	Koeri	10	4	2
5	Ahar Singh	42	Do.	12	10	8
6	Bandhu Mahton	46	Do	8	8	10
7	Raffiean Mistry	45	Barai	9	2	4
8	Somaru Ram	40	Chamar	8	1	1
9	Jawahar Ram	40	Ditto	6	5	6
10	Biroha Ram	36	Ditto	8	1	4

The table indicates that most of the interviewers representing the village have some cultivable land The land near the Sone river gives good yield because of the irrigational facility available from the said river A few acres of land are also irrigated from the two tanks (about two furlongs from the Block office) in which water is stored during the rainy season. The economic condition of the villagers except the 30 Harijan families seems to be good. The

Harijans generally work as tied labour to the big land-owners who are Brahmans by caste The Harijans generally take loan from them and in payment of loan they are obliged to work in their field. Complaints of high-handedness were made

Daranagar.

This village is situated at a distance of about six miles from Nauhatta. There is a *kachcha* District Board road from Nauhatta to Daranagar The road is jeepable only during the fair weather. The nearest railway station is Mahadeopur Bhadara at a distance of two miles from the village

The village has an area of 2,558 04 acres with a population of 3,012 persons (1,512 males and 1,500 females) according to the Census of 1961 as supplied by the Block office. In 1951 Census the population of the village was 2,200 (1,094 males and 1,106 females). The number of household is 698 according to 1961 Census

The village is inhabited by people of different castes such as Brahman, Rajput, Kayastha, Ahir, etc There is no tribal family in the village.

The village is electrified The village has a post office, an upper primary school, one youth club and one library A *hat* is held on every Wednesday and Sunday

Some details of investigation are as follows.—

Serial no	Name	Age	Tribe or Caste	Total number of members in the family	Land held in bighas	Cattle owned.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Jagdish Tiwari	55	Brahman	10	5	7
2	Narsingh Datta Pathak	47	Ditto	12	8	5
3	Nagendra Nath Sahi	55	Rajput	10	13	8
4	Raghubar Chaudhury	28	Sinhi	10	8	3
5	Tribeni Chaudhury .	50	Bania	20	13	6
6	Bhichan Chamar .	60	Chamar	5		
7	Baldeo Dusadh	50	Dusadh	6		3
8	Basudeo Nonia	45	Nonia	10	.	
9	Adalat Dhobi	80	Dhobi	10	.	2

Development Work

The figures as supplied by the Block office show that 27 minor irrigation wells and three drinking wells were sunk On investigation it was found that only five wells can be used only for drinking purpose. The remaining irrigation wells are useless as the water is not available for irrigation or even for drinking purpose Most of the culverts constructed are not only useless but in some cases where the levelling work has not been done, are also harmful. A *pucca* drain measuring about four furlongs has been constructed but for rural areas the utility of this drain is negligible

Conclusion.

The Block was provided with Rs. 27 lakhs, Rs. 15 lakhs by the Ministry of Home Affairs and Rs 12 lakhs by the Community Development Ministry during the Second Five-Year Plan. In the Second Five-Year Plan every Special Multi-purpose Tribal Block was provided with this sum of money It was also decided to extend the life of the Block for a period of two years more in the case a Block would not be able to spend the whole amount (i.e., 27 lakhs) within the Second Five-Year Plan This Block has also spent two years after the expiry of the period of Second Five-Year Plan but could not be able to utilise the entire amount. A statement showing the allotment and expenditure under sub-heads during the Second Five-Year Plan and thereafter in 1961-62 and 1962-63 may be useful for proper appraisal of the impact:—

Serial no	Sub-heads	Schematic ceiling for Second Five-Year Plan	Amount spent during the Second Five-Year Plan	Expenditure during 1961-62	Expenditure during 1962-63
1	2	3	4	5	6
		Rs	Rs	Rs.	Rs
1	Project Headquarters	6,00,000	3,62,388	1,01,976 06	1,02,768
2	Agriculture	66,000	43,163	10,967 42	8,709
3	Animal Husbandry	84,000	70,125	14,439 88	17,006
4	Co-operation	2,00,000	81,301	5,881.34	33,882
5	Irrigation	4,06,000	2,58,118	95,000	56,177
6	Health and Rural Sanitation	2,00,000	1,05,440	8,458 94	24,964
7	Education	75,000	52,430	8,100 33	18,751
8	Social Education and Publicity	75,000	54,997	13,963 27	9,912
9	Communications	4,00,000	1,56,242	24,724 18	52,057
10	Rural Arts and Crafts	2,00,000	93,501	22,804 37	17,753
11	Housing for Staff	1,00,000	42,613	30,000	12,674
12	Rural Housing	2,50,000	1,21 497	1,080.96	5,187
13	Miscellaneous (Survey, etc.)	50,000	.	..	..
14	Suspense	50,000	13,529	3,103 15	14,046
	GRAND TOTAL	27,00,000	14,62,443	3,40,500	3,73,886

The table shows that even after two years of the Second Five Year Plan the Block could be able to spend Rs. 21,76,829 out o Rs. 27 lakhs and thus it failed to utilise Rs. 5,23,171 during th prescribed time.

The Tribal Block, as this one, was provided with the large sun of Rs 27 lakhs with the object of spending them mainly on th development of the tribal people But as stated elsewhere the triba population of this Block is below 15 per cent only (14 6 per cent according to 1961 Census and it was gathered that not even one fourth of the total expenditure was invested for the development o such small portion of the tribal population. Thus the Block ha been beneficial more to the non-tribals than the tribals. Th principle with which the Tribal Blocks have been established doe not appear to have been fulfilled.

One way to measure the success of the Block is to ascertain a to how much of the allotted sum it could spend on the developmen works. But the real touchstone is to find out as to how the mone was spent and what effect it produced on the people for whom i was spent.

If this Block is examined on this ground it would be noticed i appears to have failed to fulfil the aim with which it was establishec

First, it may be mentioned that the development schemes ove which lakhs of rupees have been spent were not wisely plannec For example, with a view to improve the communications 20 culverts were taken up out of which 121 culverts have been com pleted During the course of investigation it was found that mo of the culverts are not only useless but also have made the comm nications worse due to unlevelling of the place connecting road wit the culvert. It results in accumulation of water below the culver which blocks the communications. Thus the money spent o communications amounting to Rs 2,33,023 has not had much effec The construction of the useless culverts has created a certai amount of public opinion against the Block. The villagers wer found saying that Block does not spend money for their welfare bu for some other purpose otherwise the culverts would not have bee so uselessly constructed. It is a bad example set by the Block whic has shaken the confidence of the public.

It is not the only example, but one of many examples. It wa found during the course of investigation that most of the communit halls, or other buildings constructed by the Block are very wea and some of them were reported to have fallen down after only on or two years of their construction. The grain-*gola* at Rehal was sai to have fallen down only after two or three years after it wa completed and occupied.

It is doubtful if the money spent on the construction of irrigation wells has been well spent. 550 minor irrigation wells were taken up out of which 450 have been completed. Some minor irrigation wells were also repaired. The amount spent on these schemes comes to Rs. 4,09,295. On investigation it was found that most of the irrigation wells were without water even in winter season and thus the money spent on them is fruitless. It may be pointed out that most of the area of the Block is hilly and for sinking irrigation wells on the hilly area the same amount is allotted as on the plain which does not meet the heavy expenditure on sinking them on the hills So it is also one of the factors behind the failure of providing irrigation through sinking minor irrigation wells

Thus though lakhs of money have been spent the result achieved is very discouraging

So far the development of the tribal people is concerned which is the essence behind the establishment of the Tribal Block, the result is rather more discouraging The main occupation of the tribals is cultivation and for its improvement the major step taken by the Block was to construct irrigation wells which proved a failure. The Japanese method of cultivation in view of the poor economic condition of the tribals is not practicable and the use of improved seeds and manure has been very little So though Rs. 62,839 has been spent on Agriculture, the yield of the land possessed by the tribals or non-tribals has not increased to any appreciable extent and the Block has not been successful to improve their economic condition

It may be pointed out that for the betterment of the tribals, four points are necessary to be borne in mind. One is to educate them for economic planning, the other is to provide them facilities for getting them out of the clutches of the *mahajans*, the third is to provide facilities for improved agriculture and provide suitable employment such as establishment of small scale industries, etc, where they can work in the off seasons and the fourth is to give them opportunities for receiving higher education. The raw materials for starting small-scale industries are available in the neighbouring jungles. On investigation it was gathered that none of the points has been materialised and their economic condition stands still.

Most of the tribals have privilege of forest produce found in abundance in the neighbouring jungle They are also provided with employment for afforestation, construction of houses or in stone-cutting work at Chunhatta. Some of the tribals have also land for cultivation and thus they have in a way sufficient sources of income but the tribals do not avail themselves of the opportunity. They are accustomed to take liquor. They generally do not prefer

to go to work till there is sufficient grain in the house for consumption. Moreover, on the important festivals and marriage, etc., they are prone to spend money beyond their means and thereby they fall into the vicious circle of debt. The work of social education through the Block is practically nil. So far as education is concerned only one Junior Basic School has been established on the hill particularly for the tribals and that too is not functioning well. The effort to get them out of the clutches of the *mahajans* was made through the establishment of co-operative societies but as they are very poor and are unable to purchase shares, the benefit does not go to them Thus through the efforts of the Block their condition has not improved.

So far as non-tribals are concerned it may be pointed out that their main occupation is cultivation and very little improvement in cultivation has been done by the Block

Most of the people have very small holdings measuring 3 to 5 acres and only a few ex-landlords possess the bulk of the land Most of them are tied labourers

During the investigation on the impact of the Community Development Programme on the tribal and non-tribal population of the Nauhatta Block it was found that the tribals of Rehal village usually drop *Mong*, a kind of intoxicating fruit found in the neighbouring forest in the water in the evening and in the morning the fishes will be floating half dead

The tribals still wash their clothes by putting their clothes in a *handia* (an earthen pot) and fill it with water mixed with ashes. They boil the clothes in this water and then wash them in cold water It is a very cheap method

The Oraons observe almost all the Hindu festivals but in their own way In *Holi* festival the Oraons engage themselves in continuous hunting for four days prior to the actual day of the *Holi*. They observe the Sammat festival by using crackers and other fireworks They do not collect fuel and burn it like the Hindus. The impact of modernism is shown by the fact that the Oraons put *Abir* (coloured powder) on the forehead of each other The women folk sprinkle coloured water and rub coloured powder on each other The man folk go round in a dancing party and collect paddy and money which are utilised in a picnic

Karma, an important festival, used to be observed by both the Oraons and the Kharwars But now that the Kharwars are claiming to be purely Rajput, they do not take part in Karma The very fact that some of the Oraons even observe purely Hindu festivals like Chhat and Jitia, discloses that pure tribalism is on wane.

The Kharwars dominate the village. They consider themselves to be superior than the Oraons or other castes and they cannot take food prepared or cooked by other castes, even by the Brahmans.

The Oraons also maintain untouchability like the Kharwars. It was noticed that the Kharwars do not allow the Oraon to sit on the chair or bench or bed in their presence and the Oraons are accustomed to stand up if they per chance see the Kharwars. Before sowing seeds in the land the Kharwars perform some *puja* and till the *puja* is not performed no Oraons or other persons are allowed to sow in their field For performing *puja* the Kharwars also collect subscriptions from the Oraons, as well as from other people. The Oraons were found resenting over this traditional custom as sometimes if there is delay in performing the *puja*, it affects their cultivation.

It was found that the Oraons speak their own Kurukh language but they can speak and understand Hindi well The Cheros speak local Hindi only The Cheros, both males and females, dance and sing but now women are being discouraged from dancing This is also because the Cheros also claim to be of Rajput descent As the Hindus do not allow the women folk to dance publicly the Cheros are also following their example.

Our investigation based on the examination of the sampling of the heads of 30 households out of 148 households at Rehal village indicated that the average number of children per family came to three only. The popular belief is that the low incidence of fertility is due to bad climate This matter was not pursued and it cannot be definitely said that bad climate alone is responsible for this factor

IMPACT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT ON THE TRIBAL AND NON TRIBAL PEOPLE OF ROHTAS BLOCK (NORTH), DISTRICT SHAHABAD

The object of the starting of the Community Development Blocks has been mentioned elsewhere

The Rohtas Block in Sasaram subdivision with headquarters at Akbarpur was started in October 1957. The tribal people mostly inhabit the Kaimur plateau stretching over 800 square miles in Shahabad district The block covers an area of 8,59,581 76 acres with 59 villages (out of which two are unpopulated), 1,028 households and 14 *gram panchayats* According to the population statistics of 1961 supplied by Rohtas Block Office the total population of the block is 39,337 persons out of which 2,330 are tribal people. The tribals form about 7 per cent of the population The tribals are found at villages, viz., Kachuar, Koriari, Aamdih, Budhua, Nagatoli, Diadih, Baknaur, Talnat and Samhauta under Rohtas Block

An investigation was made by the investigators in October-November, 1963 to make an intensive study on the impact of Community Development Block on the tribals particularly and the non-tribals in general in five tribal villages (the majority inhabitants

being tribals), viz, Nagatoli, Budhua, Kachuar, Koriari and Aamdih and three non-tribal villages (exclusively non-tribals), viz., Akbarpur, Banjari and Ramdihra

(a) Village Nagatoli.—The village is at a distance of nine miles to the west from Akbarpur, the block headquarters and 34 miles to the south-west of Sasaram, the subdivisional headquarters It has an area of 1,041.52 acres and 186 households The total population is 966, i.e, 504 males and 462 females according to the figures supplied by the Block office. The Oraons (tribe) form the majority in the village. In the headquarters of Nagatoli *gram panchayat* the *Mukhiya* is elected from among the Oraons.

Ten persons in the village of whom eight were Oraons and two Gwalas were interviewed and studied Some details regarding the persons interviewed are given below:—

Name.	Age	Total number of members in the household.	Lands	Loans taken from Co-operative Society	Loans taken from grain-*gola*s	Cattle owned.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
			Bighas	Rs.		
1. Karmu Oraon	60	5	10	325	3 mds paddy.	3 including one milch cow
2. Sita Oraon	45	4	16	Nil	Nil	4 including two milch cows
3. Nathuni Oraon	65	10	9	Nil	1½ mds paddy.	2 including one milch cow.
4. Somara Oraon	35	7	13	50	Nil	Nil.
5. Etwari Oraon	60	3	4	Nil	Nil	Nil
6. Mangara Oraon	50	6	2	100	2 mds paddy	2 including one milch cow
7. Nandlall Oraon	25	5	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
8 Gora Oraon	45	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil.
9 Sheo Varan Mandal	40	6	40	100	Nil	Nil.
10 Ram Pati Yadav.	36	3	32	100	Nil	7 including two milch cows.

The lands of the village are sandy The tribal people generally practise terrace agriculture The main crops grown in the area are paddy, sugarcane, groundnut, maize, potato and oilseeds.

The Community Development Block has tried to improve agriculture by supplying improved seeds and chemical manures. The villagers also prepare compost and apply them to their fields.

The Block supplied the following quantity of improved seeds to Nagatoli·—

	Seeds	No of families.
1960-61	1½ mds	3
1961-62	3 „	6
1962-63	4½ „	10
1963-64	Nil	Nil

The villagers, viz, Karmu Oraon, Somaru Oraon and Sheo Varan Mandal distributed about 10 maunds of seeds to 15 persons during 1963-64

Besides, the Welfare Department distributed 10 maunds of seeds through gram-*gola* to village Nagatoli It may be noted that the loanees have to pay 10 seers per maund per year as interest to Welfare Department. On an investigation it was ascertained that prior to the inception of the block, the Oraons generally used to take paddy seed from *mahajans* as interest The Welfare Department also granted subsidy, i.e , Rs 50 00 to Karmu Oraon of village Nagatoli for purchasing agricultural implements Karmu Oraon was contacted during the investigation and it was ascertained that the man had utilised Rs 25 in purchasing agricultural implements and the rest Rs. 25 had been spent otherwise. The villagers have started a co-operative society with 72 members Rs 2,950 have been advanced as loans and Rs 1,435 have been paid by the members

Half a ton chemical manures to village Nagatoli amongst four families had been given during 1963

One *Hariana* bull had been given This has not been of much help in improving the breed as the cows were of much shorter stature Secondly the bull died because it had been unable to stand the unfamiliar climate and partly because it had not been properly looked after. Twenty pedigree birds to six persons. and 17 eggs had been distributed during 1960-61 to 1962-63.

The village has one lower primary school with 25 students and one teacher and one residential school with 30 students and one teacher. The residential school is maintained by the Welfare Department which provides free board, lodging and tuition to the students reading in it. Though there is a provision for 30 students, but on the average 15 students were found to attend the classes The school building is in a very deplorable state. The tribal people are not so anxious to impart education to their children because of poverty. In the residential school visited it was found there was no cook and the students had to cook themselves. There was a social education centre but since 1962 December it was abolished. The incidence of literacy is as follows.—

Males.	Females.	Total.
145	10	155

One health centre has been started in village Nagatoli and on the average it was observed 13 persons attending the centre every week. The health centre is completely neglected by the medical officer located at Akbarpur, the block headquarters. The doctor has not visited the centre for six months.

(*b*) *Village Budhua*.—The village is at a distance of sixteen miles to the north-west from Akbarpur, the block headquarters and 27 miles to the south from Sasaram, the subdivisional headquarters. It has an area of 13,769.70 acres including 11,736.27 acres of forest areas and 180 households. The total population is 841, i.e., 456 males and 385 females, according to the figures supplied by Block office. The Kharwars form the majority in this village.

The Research Assistant interviewed twelve persons in the village of whom eight were Kharwars, three Oraons and one Gwala. Some details regarding the persons examined are given below:—

Name	Age	Total number of member in the household	Lands	Loan taken from the grain-*gola*	Loan taken from the Co-operative Society	Cattle owned.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
			Bighas		Rs.	
1. Hisab Singh	65	9	50	1½ mds.	4,721	4 including one milch cow.
2. Ram Pati Singh	34	7	30	Nil	Nil	6 including two milch cows.
3. Ram Naresh Singh	51	4	40	Nil	Nil	2 including one milch cow.
4. Basudeo Singh	47	11	21	Nil	Nil	3 including one milch cow.
5. Ram Swarup Singh	31	13	8	Nil	Nil	Nil
6. Kumar Singh	51	9	7	2 mds. paddy seed	240	3 including one milch cow.
7. Jagdish Singh	60	6	14	Nil	Nil	Nil
8. Mishri Singh	39	12	21	Nil	Nil	Nil
9. Pancha Oraon	48	4	12	Nil	Nil	Nil
10. Keshwar Oraon	51	3	9	Nil	Nil	Nil
11. Brikh Oraon	37	5	6	Nil	Nil	Nil
12. Mangal Yadav	41	7	3	Nil	148	6 including two milch cows.

The Community Development Block has supplied improved seeds as follows:—

	Seeds.	Number of families.
1960-61 ..	2 maunds	4
1961-62 ..	Nil	Nil
1962-63 ..	1 maund	3
1963-64 ..	2 maunds	4

The villagers distributed about seven maunds of seeds to ten persons during 1963-64. One and half tons of chemical manures to village Budhua amongst eight families had been given during 1963.

The village has one lower primary school with 20 students and one teacher and one residential school with 30 students and one teacher. On personal visit it was found 15 students only attending classes The condition of the building is very deplorable The incidence of literacy is as follows:—

Males	Females	Total
63	7	70

The village has one Co-operative Society and Rs 1,572 has been advanced as loan to 21 members out of which Rs 579 has been paid by the members.

(c) *Village Kachuar*—The village is at a distance of six miles towards north-west from Banjari Railway Station and twelve miles to the north-west of Akbarpur, the block headquarters It has an area of 16,523 75 acres including 16,400 35 acres of forest area and 39 households The total population is 193, i e, 101 males and 92 females The Kharwars only inhabit this village

The Research Assistant had interviewed ten persons in the village of whom all were Kharwars Some details regarding the persons interviewed are given below —

Name	Age	Tribe or Caste	Total number of members in the house hold	Loan taken from the Co-operative Society	Loan taken from the grain-*gola*	Lands	Cattle owned
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
				Rs.		Bighas.	
1 Malikha Singh	45	Kharwar	10	Nil	2 mds. paddy seed	60	10 including four milch cows.
2. Lakshman Singh	37	Ditto	9	Nil	1½ Ditto	25	4 including one milch cow.
3 Subedar Singh	59	Ditto	7	Nil	Nil	12	2 including one milch cow.
4. Dhani Singh	43	Ditto	8	Nil	Nil	31	3 including one milch cow.
5 Bhagwan Singh	29	Ditto	4	Nil	½ maund	17	2 including one milch cow.
6. Bandhu Singh	35	Ditto	11	Nil	2½ maunds	9	5 including one milch cow.
7. Geda Singh	51	Ditto	7	Nil	Nil	Nil (Labourer)	Nil
8. Ram Dhani Singh	47	Ditto	10	Nil	Nil	6	Nil
9. Pachor Singh	62	Ditto	9	Nil	1 maund	9	Nil.
10. Sadhu Singh	37	Ditto	6	Nil	35 seers	10	2 including one milch cow.

During 1963-64 only 1½ maunds to three persons have been given in the village. Ten maunds of agricultural paddy seed had been given to five persons during 1962-63. by the Welfare Department. The village has one lower primary school with 20 students and one teacher. The incidence of literacy is as follows:—

Males.	Females.	Total.
35	2	37

(*d*) *Village Kortari.*—The village is at a distance of eight miles towards west from Akbarpur, the block headquarters. It has an area of 15,407.30 acres including 12,750.14 acres of forest area and 107 households. The total population is 572, i.e., 299 males and 273 females, according to the figures supplied by block office. The Oraons form the majority and there is only one family of Kharwar.

The Research Assistant interviewed 14 persons in the village of whom 13 were Oraons and one Kharwar. Some details of whom are given below:—

Name	Age	Tribe or Caste	Total number of members in the house hold	Loans taken from the Co-operative Society	Loans taken from the grain-*gola*	Lands	Cattle owned.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
				Rs.		Bighas	
1. Budhu Oraon	35	Oraon	5	Nil	2 mds paddy seed	6	5 including one milch cow.
2. Ram Prasad Oraon	56	Do	4	Nil	3 Ditto	2	Nil.
3. Jangli Oraon	25	Do	13	Nil	1 Ditto	30	Nil.
4. Pancha Oraon	52	Do.	7	Nil	4 Ditto	30	Nil.
5. Karma Oraon	36	Do	3	Nil	Nil	10	Nil.
6. Tejak Oraon	50	Do	6	Nil	4 maunds	12	Nil.
7. Nathuni Oraon	47	Do	5	Nil	2 maunds	8	3 including one milch cow.
8. Bhoju Oraon	39	Do.	3	Nil	1 maund	8	4 including two milch cows.
9. Thupa Oraon	38	Do.	6	Nil	1½ maunds	1	Nil
10. Ralkbu Oraon	28	Do.	4	Nil	1 maund	2½	Nil
11. Rajkumar Oraon	30	Do	3	Nil	Nil	3	Nil
12. Mukhdeo Oraon	36	Do	5	Nil	Nil	4	3 including one milch cow.
13. Jokhu Oraon	30	Do	8	Nil	2 maunds	½	Nil
14. Ram Kumar Singh	60	Kharwar	3	Nil	3 maunds	40	5 including two milch cows.

During 1963-64, 4½ maunds improved seeds to seven persons were given by the Community Development Block. Prior to that no improved seeds had been provided by the block. 15½ maunds

of paddy seeds had been provided by Welfare Department to three Oraons during 1962-63. Four maunds to village Koriari amongst ten families had been given by the block during 1961—63. In the village five birds to two persons and 12 eggs to six persons had been given during 1960-61 to 1962-63. One *Hariana* bull had been supplied by the block in 1958-59 but during the same year it died. Hence it has not been of any help to the villagers. The village has one lower primary school with 35 students and 1 teacher. The incidence of literacy is as follows.—

Males	Females.	Total.
37	5	42

There is one health centre and on the average 15 persons attend the centre On enquiry it was ascertained that the doctor has not visited the centre for eight months The village has no co-operative society

(*e*) *Village Aamdih.*—The village is at a distance of six miles towards north-west from Akbarpur, the block headquarters It has an area of 255 83 acres and 15 households. The total population is 97, i e, 53 males and 44 females The village has three tribal elements, namely, Kharwar, Oraon and Chero.

The Research Assistant interviewed eight persons in the village of whom four were Oraons, three Cheros and one Kharwar. Some details of whom are given below —

Name	Age	Tribe or Caste	Total number of members in the household	Loans taken from the Co-operative Society	Loans taken from the grain-gola	Lands	Cattle owned	Loans taken from the *mahajans*.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Years							Rs.
1 Jirholia Oraon	30	Oraon	4	Nil	2 maunds paddy seed	7	2 including one milch cow	100
2. Jakhra Oraon	50	Do	4	Nil	3 Ditto	11	3 including one milch cow	50
3. Briksha Oraon	60	Do	4	Nil	1½ Ditto	13	5 including two milch cows	310
4. Somra Oraon	37	Do.	9	Nil	2 Ditto	16	3 including one milch cow	210
5. Sadhu Chero	40	Chero	5	Nil	Nil	11	2 including one milch cow	Nil
6. Mohan Chero	38	Do.	7	Nil	Nil	14	5 including two milch cows	Nil.
7. Shri Keshwar Chero.	60	Do.	6	Nil	3 maunds	11	Nil	175
8. Din Dayal Singh	45	Kharwar	6	Nil	1½ maunds	9	Nil	110

Name of *Mahajans*—(1) Ram Prasad. (2) Fakir Khan and (3) Moinuddin Khan of village Akbarpur.

The Community Development Block supplied 1½ maunds of improved seed to six persons during 1963-64. The village has one lower primary school with 18 students and one teacher. The incidence of literacy is poor and only two persons are literate in the village.

(*f*) *Village Akbarpur*.—The village is at a distance of 24 miles towards south from Dehri-on-Sone and 35 miles to the south-east from Sasaram, the subdivisional headquarters. It has an area of 824.40 acres with 610 households. The total population is 3,557, i.e., 1,806 males and 1,951 females, according to the figures supplied by Rohtas Block Office. The Muhammadans form the majority in the village.

During investigation the Research Assistant examined about ten persons, some details of whom are given below:—

Name	Age	Caste	Total number of members in the household	Loans taken from the Co-operative Society	Lands in bighas.	Cattle owned.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Years			Rs.		
1. Ram Prasad Gupta	40	Bania	10	15	60	5 including two milch cows.
2. Narain Singh	60	Koeri	12	100	100	6 including two milch cows.
3. Moinuddin Khan	55	Muslim	14	441	125	10 including four milch cows.
4. Fakir Khan	70	Ditto	15	300	475	12 including five milch cows.
5. Hafiz Khan	50	Ditto	10	Nil	212	10 including four milch cows.
6. Munshi Singh	40	Rajput	9	175	100	Nil
7. Oakar Das	35	Kayastha	8	112	14	Nil
8. Leeladhar Singh	55	Koeri	7	189	45	8 including four milch cows.
9. Sheo Kumar Singh	45	Kurmi	6	Nil	31	3 including two milch cows.
10. Ram Narain Singh	39	Do.	5	212	18	Nil

(*g*) *Village Ramdihra.*—The village is at a distance of 13 miles towards north-west from Akbarpur, the block headquarters. It has an area of 752.96 acres with 268 households. The total population is 1,666, i.e., 855 males and 811 females according to the figures supplied by the Rohtas block office.

About ten persons were examined during investigation and some details of them are given below —

Name.	Age	Caste	Total number of members in the household	Loans taken from the Co operative Society	Lands in Bighas.	Cattle owned.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Years			Rs		
1 Sakaldeo Singh	48	Rajput	14	1,200	175	25 including nine milch cows.
2 Dhaneshwar Singh	40	Ditto	7	400	40	10 including four milch cows
3. Rajpati Lal Verma	54	Kayastha	12	400	15	Nil
4 Kesho Singh	27	Rajput	4	Nil	50	5 including two milch cows
5. Sukra Mahto	32	Koeri	4	Nil	40	4 including two milch cows
6 Hakim Khan	45	Muslim	5	Nil	25	3 including one milch cow.
7 Bajrangi Mahto	56	Koeri	9	545	18	6 including three milch cows
8. Shri Krishna Thakur	47	Bhumihar Brahman.	8	413	75	5 including two milch cows.
9. Harihar Prasad Singh	61	Rajput	3	310	41	4 including two milch cows.
10 Shyam Narain Singh	47	Kurmi	6	Nil	31	2 including one milch cow.

(*h*) *Village Banjari* -The village is at a distance of five miles towards north-west from Akbarpur, the block headquarters. It has an area of 565.85 acres with 164 households. The total population is 1,911, i.e., 1,169 males and 742 females, according to the figures supplied by the Rohtas block office.

Eight persons were examined during investigation and some details of them are given below:—

Name.	Age	Caste	Total number of members in the household	Loans taken from the Co-operative Society.	Lands in bighas	Cattle owned.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Years			Rs		
1 Radha Prasad Singh	30	Rajput	7	400	40	6 including three milch cows
2 Baidyanath Singh	41	Ditto	6	200	15	4 including two milch cows.
3. Krishna Kumar Mahato	37	Koeri	7	95	10	5 including two milch cows.
4. Ismail Khan	43	Muslim	3	54	30	3 including one milch cow.
5. Ram Pati Singh	51	Rajput	8	Nil	15	Nil
6 Jangli Singh	49	Ditto	9	Nil	8	Nil
7. Awadh Kishore Prasad	29	Kayastha	12	145	10	Nil
8 Mangal Yadav	51	Gwala	6	Nil	12	10 including four milch cows.

IMPACT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Agriculture.—The Community Development Block distributed some improved seeds as follows:—

Village.	Seeds in maunds				Number of families			
	1960-61	1961-62.	1962-63.	1963-64	1960-61.	1961-62.	1962-63.	1963-64.
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1 Akbarpur	4	6	7	9	6	7	9	10
2. Panjari ..	1½	2	1½	3	4	5	8	4
3. Ramdihra	5½	4	9	14	5	6	11	17

Twelve tons of chemical manures to village Akbarpur amongst forty-two families, three tons to village Banjari amongst thirteen families, one ton to village Ramdihra amongst seven families have been distributed by the block during 1959-60 to 1962-63.

Very few eggs and birds had been supplied by the Animal Husbandry Department to the villages visited. Not much improvement was noticed. Eggs are generally sold out at the village *hats* at higher price and hardly utilised for hatching. A few better type of birds were seen in village Akbarpur but they could hardly suggest a general upgrading of the standard.

Education.—Prior to the inception of the block, there were only four schools located each at Akbarpur, Karma, Ramdihra and Saraiya but now thirteen more schools have been started. The incidence of literacy in the villages is as follows:—

> 828 persons in village Akbarpur, 406 persons in village Banjari and 433 persons in village Ramdihra. Out of seventeen, two of the schools located each at village Akbarpur and Ramdihra, are exclusively meant for girls.

During 1962-63 the State Government had given grant in shape of books, i.e., 75 books to Akbarpur library, 56 books to Ramdihra library for development. On personal visit to the libraries it was observed about 50 persons visiting the libraries daily.

Co-operative Society.—The table below supplied by co-operative section of Rohtas Development Block, will show the expansion of the co-operative societies:—

Name of the village		Number of Co-operative societies.	Number of members	Loans advanced to society.
				Rs
1. Akbarpur	..	4	187	4,341
2. Ramdihra	..	5	269	7,000
3. Banjari	..	2	42	1,180

The business of the co-operative societies is the distribution and collection of loans for agricultural purposes. The habit of repayment does not appear to be regular. It is also not known if the loan taken has been used for the purposes for which it was given. On enquiry it was found that Rs. 2,972 in Akbarpur, Rs. 4,918 in Ramdihra and Rs. 831 in Banjari have been paid by the members who took loan from the society.

Conclusion.—Out of 57 populated villages under the Rohtas Community Development Block (North), a sample survey of the activities and effect of the block on five tribal and three non-tribal villages was conducted.

To improve the lot of the tribals, it is essential that the Government officials should aim at the development of the area through a phased programme drawn up in consultation with the people concerned so that the tribals might take interest wherever possible and see that the programme is successfully implemented. This programme should be done to remove the factors that stand in the way of their development.

The major factors are—

(1) Lack of communication between the Kaimur Plateau and the plain level.

(2) Lack of proper and planned irrigation.

(3) Lack of educational facilities.

(4) Lack of facilities for the development of cottage industries.

(5) Lack of market.

(6) Lack of proper supervision by Government officials.

(7) Lack of proper medical facilities.

The block has tried to remove these impediments and has been successful to some extent There is no access to reach the tribal villages situated on the hill save and except on foot and that too becomes difficult during the rainy season. The only means to carry the goods on the hill is by head load. Ponies are also used to carry the goods.

Very little of improved type of crops or rice collected in the households were, however, seen in villages Nagatoli, Budhua and Kachuai. Out of the improved seeds supplied some villagers ate up the grain thus received as ascertained

Agriculture.—The lands of most of the tribal and non-tribal villages visited by the investigators are sandy. The tribal people generally practise terrace agriculture. The main crops grown in the area are paddy, sugarcane, groundnut, maize, potato and oil-seeds Very few irrigation facilities have been provided and the people mainly depend on the rainfall.

The Community Development Block has tried to improve agriculture by supplying improved seeds and chemical manures. The villagers also prepare compost. The produce due to the application of chemical fertilisers, compost and better seeds yield better results only when the rainfall is timely and adequate.

It may be noted that the tribal people are not so desirous to purchase chemical manures because of improper irrigational facilities. Secondly, they do not grow sugarcane and groundnut crops in the hilly soil. In non-tribal villages there has been a good response in utilising the chemical manures. They generally utilise manures in sugarcane and groundnut crops. Chemical fertilisers are generally purchased by the Sugarcane Co-operative Society located at Tilouthu. The members of the Canegrowers' Co-operative Society in different villages purchase the manures on credit basis The money is realised from the cultivators at the time of harvesting the crop.

Previously the members of the co-operative societies used to purchase chemical fertilisers without paying any interest but since April, 1963, they have to pay the interest at the rate of 7½ per cent of the total amount of loan taken from the society. Those who are not members of the Canegrowers' Co-operative Society can also purchase the chemical fertilisers but not on credit.

The attempt of the Community Development Block to introduce the Japanese method of paddy cultivation has not been successful in both the tribal or non-tribal villages because of the nature of the soil and want of irrigation. The area is not suitable for this type of cultivation, without proper irrigation. Thus it appears that the amount of money and energy spent in introducing this system of paddy cultivation has been a sheer waste Attempts were made to sink wells to provide irrigation and also drinking water on the hill but these have proved unsuccessful to some extent due to the rocky nature of the soil in respect of the tribal villages. During 1963 the Japanese method of cultivation was introduced in the tribal village Nagatoli in four acres for demonstration purpose but the tribal people were not impressed by this demonstration. It would have been much better and beneficial if the amount spent in introducing the Japanese method of cultivation could have been utilised in supplying good poultry to the tribal people.

The incidence of indebtedness in tribal and non-tribal villages is high and the majority of the people are not free from it There are several men at Akbarpur and Ramdihra who carry on *mahajani* business. In order to reduce the burden of indebtedness co-operative credit societies have been started in all the non tribal villages and in some of the tribal villages also, viz, Nagatoli and Budhua which give loans on 7½ per cent interest This is extremely low as compared with the interest charged by the *mahajans* who charge 25 per cent interest. The villagers now take loans from the co-operative societies and this has brought about some relief. Seven sewing machines to village Ramdihra and three machines to village Banjari have been distributed to liquidate the indebtedness. One Weavers' Co-operative Society is also functioning in village

Ramdihra. But in the tribal villages no industrial loan has been advanced to liquidate indebtedness nor any sewing machine has been given in their villages.

The villagers are also responsible for much of the poor development in the rural areas, because they have mistaken the block to be an agency for only distributing money With the coming of the block in stage II, funds are not so abundantly available for granting subsidies. The people did not develop much of social consciousness or initiative and did not think it was necessary for them individually and collectively to continue the work that has been sponsored.

One of the basic ideas of Community Development Programme was that, spoon-feeding will be done at the initial stage and will gradually be diminished when the people will start taking up the work themselves. This objective has not been fulfilled The villager still thinks that, if any scheme is completed, it is none of his duty along with others to keep it functioning.

Animal Husbandry.—Poultry farming is generally carried on by the tribals and muslims in the district. The Community Development Block began supplying the pedigree birds and eggs. It may be noted that the Kharwars keep only cows, bullocks and buffaloes. They do not keep pigs or poultry which they consider as unclean. The Oraons and the members of the Scheduled Castes such as Chamars and Doms keep poultry Pigs are also kept by the Oraons and Doms. Goats are also kept by some people Cattle, i e, cows and she buffaloes kept by the tribal people yield small quantity of milk but the expense of maintaining them is almost nil as they are driven to the jungle for grazing and collected again in the evening. The cattle in the tribal villages are still of a very poor breed.

The Japanese method of paddy cultivation has not been successful or popular in either tribal or non-tribal areas. Facilities in getting improved seeds have been of some good to both the tribal and non-tribal villages. The more well-to-do villagers, either tribal or non-tribal, have been able to improve their crops to some extent.

The bulk of the tribals or scheduled castes or backward people is unable to purchase improved seeds, fertilisers, agricultural implements, etc, because of their bad economic condition.

Irrigation.—It was ascertained that eight pynes in Nagatoli village, one at village Budhua, five at Koriari, two at Aamdih, one at Kachuar, five at Akbarpur, four at Ramdihra and three at Banjari have been provided on 50 per cent basis. It is to be noted that a major scheme, viz, Titula *bundh* located at four miles from village Ramdihra has been sanctioned which will irrigate about 10,000 acres of land. Besides, a medium irrigation scheme has also

been sanctioned at village Koriari. The block has constructed drinking wells on 75 per cent basis through the help of the Welfare Department as follows:—

(1) Village Nagatoli—8.

(2) Village Budhua—6.

(3) Village Koriari—2.

Besides, the block has constructed eight drinking wells at Akbarpur, six at Ramdihia and four at Banjari villages. Some help in irrigation matter has been given and has helped the people.

Industries.—The block has not been able to help in the development of small-scale industries. On enquiry it was gathered that there is no scope for small-scale industries because of the large-scale industries and a number of lime-stone quarries near the block. There are lime and cement factories at Kalayanpur and Baulia. Dehri-on-Sone is also near the block headquarters. Many tribals and non-tribals are employed in those factories. This contributes in liquidating the economic backwardness especially of tribal people.

Health and Sanitation.—With the opening of Development Block, one six indoor bedded State dispensary at Akbarpur and three health centres at villages Nagatoli, Kairna and Koriari, have been started by the block. Prior to the establishment of the block the people used to go to either Dehri-on-Sone or Sasaram for proper medical treatment though there was a District Board dispensary at village Akbarpur. This District Board dispensary was upgraded to the status of a State Dispensary in 1957. The opening of the bedded State dispensary is a distinct relief for the villagers.

The tribal people are found to be physically fit and quite healthy. They are, however, not so neat and clean as we find the tribal people of Chotanagpur. The houses of the tribal people are of old types with little ventilation. It may be mentioned that after the inception of the block, the dispensaries have become popular among them. The tribal people now come down to take allopathic and ayurvedic medicines on the plain level. The health centres are seldom visited. On enquiry it appeared that they had no idea of family planning nor any party has visited them to propagate on that subject.

The State dispensary in the block has one doctor. Besides, there is one mobile health dispensary with one doctor which goes to the health centres once in a week to facilitate the villagers. On enquiry it was ascertained that the doctor in charge of the mobile health dispensary was transferred in August, 1963. Since then no doctor has joined. The present physician in charge of the State dispensary has not visited either the health centres or the villages.

Secondly, to help the villagers wells for drinking water have been dug in villages Nagatoli, Budhua, Kachuar, Koriari, Akbarpur, Banjari and Ramdihra A few soakage pits at Akbarpur, Banjari and Ramdihra villages and a well latrine at village Koriari have been a sheer waste of money. They have had no influence on the people.

Market.—In the tribal villages lack of any market also comes on the way of improving their economic position. The tribal people have to come down to the plains to purchase or sell even a petty thing. They always remain in the clutches of the *mahajans* and *banias* living on the plain. They purchase articles generally on credit and on an exorbitant rate. The *banias* make much profit by cheating the innocent tribal people The non-tribal people are also in trouble because they do not get any article in time. The businessmen generally bring commodities either from Dehri-on Sone or Sasaram and sell on a very high rate.

Communication—Very little improvement in communications has been made.

General.—A general application of the routine schemes is not indicated in this area. That means waste of money and man-power. The Block personnel have no tribal element and no one in the block speaks any tribal language. There is lack of proper human material to work out the schemes and also very poor response from the people who think they have no duty of their own.

IMPACT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT ON THE TRIBAL AND NON-TRIBAL PEOPLE OF BHAGWANPUR BLOCK, DISTRICT SHAHABAD

The Community Development Programme was started in the district in 1952 with the opening of Development Blocks at Sasaram, Sheosagar, Bhabua and Kudra The Bhagwanpur Block with headquarters at Bhagwanpur in Bhabua subdivision was started in October, 1957 for the welfare of the tribal and non-tribal people living in the area. The tribal people are found in villages, viz., Makrikhoh, Parari, Bajdihwa, Bhitri Bundh. Karamchat and Baradih under Bhagwanpur Block. Though the villages are surrounded on all sides by the Kaimur hills, the tribals live on the plain level. The block covers an area of 159.11 square miles, i e, 1,01,829 81 acres with 272 villages (out of which 86 are unpopulated), 8,866 households and 19 *Gram Panchayats.* According to the statistics of 1961 as supplied by Bhagwanpur Block Office, the total population of the Block is 58,247 out of which only 712 are tribals

An investigation was made in November, 1963 to make an intensive study of the impact of the Community Development Block on the tribals and non-tribals. For this, two tribal villages (the majority inhabitants being tribals), viz., Makrikhoh and Parari and two non-tribal villages, viz, Ramgarh and Bajdihwa under Bhagwanpur Block were studied.

The background and the impact of Community Development Programme, villagewise, is indicated below:—

(1) *Village Makrikhoh.*—The village is at a distance of fourteen miles towards west from village Bhagwanpur, the block headquarters and 22 miles to the south-west of Bhabua, the subdivisional headquarters. It has an area of 14,775.43 acres including 11,782.68 acres of forest area with 35 households according to the figures supplied by the Block office.

The castewise population figures are as follows:—

(1) Scheduled Tribes	..	77
(2) Scheduled Castes	..	72
(3) Backward classes	..	39
TOTAL	..	188

The Cheros (tribe) form the majority in the village.

Impact of the Community Development Block.

It may be noted that twelve persons were interviewed during investigation to know the work done by the block. The details of the respondants are given below.—

Name	Age	Caste	Occupation	Lands in bighas	Loans taken from different sources. Cash	Kind.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Years.				Rs	
1 Materan Chero	50	Tribal	Cultivation and labourer in forest	16	100	3 maunds of gram seed.
2 Ram Chela Ahir	35	Backward	Cultivation	8	50	2 ,,
3. Gaya Mallah	50	Harijan	Ditto	20	175	1 ,,
4 Raghunandan Chero	30	Tribal	Ditto	36	Nil	Nil
5 Haricharan Chero	30	Ditto	Ditto	13	Nil	1 maund.
6. Mahadeo Mushar	45	Harijan	Labourer	Nil	115	2 maunds.
7. Bamhans Mushar	65	Ditto	Cultivation and labourer	12	75	3 maunds.
8. Manager Mushar	45	Ditto	Labourer	Nil	45	2 maunds.
9. Baodhu Chero	35	Tribal	Ditto	Nil	85	Nil.
10. Baltu Chero	30	Ditto	Cultivation	15	Nil	Nil
11. Jagnnath Chero	60	Ditto	Ditto	40	Nil	2 maunds.
12. Budhi Mallah	50	Harijan	Ditto	Nil	100	1 maund.

An investigation was made regarding the past and present incidence of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Education, Public Health, Irrigation and Co-operation, etc.

Agriculture.—The lands of the village are sandy loams. The villagers practise terrace agriculture on the hill slopes. The main crops grown in the area are Gram, Maize, *Jowar*, etc. On enquiry from Raghunandan Chero, the area has five irrigational-*cum*-drinking wells but only one has been constructed by the Block authorities during 1957-58 The Block had paid 50 per cent of the expenditure while the villagers contributed 50 per cent. The investigators also saw the deplorable condition of the wells. It is an acute problem for any body to take water from the wells because one has to procure at least 50 yards of rope. Naturally the well is not much used and it will require more than two persons to pull water out of the well. Besides, there is no provision for irrigation and the villagers mainly depend on rainfall.

The villagers are very backward in applying improved methods of cultivation The Block has not supplied either improved seeds or chemical fertilisers in this village However, with the help of the Village Level Worker, the villagers have started preparing compost for their fields In the village it was found that four villagers, viz, Raghunandan Chero Somaru Chero, Basanti Mushar and Modi Chero have started to prepare compost.

Besides, the tribal people and harijans have been given paddy seed and also cash subsidy to purchase bulls by the Welfare Department They generally take paddy seed on loan from the grain-*gola* located at Bhagwanpur on 25 per cent interest The repayment is done in kind.

During 1961-62 the Welfare Department distributed through the grain-*gola* 6 maunds of paddy seed to Mahadeo Chero, 3 maunds to Modi Chero and 5 maunds to Somaru Chero for cultivation purposes On an enquiry it was found grain seeds loaned are often straight-way sold to the *Mahajans* of village Bhagwanpur and at the time of repayment ordinary paddy is given In this way the purity of the grain seed loaned is also affected A sum of Rs. 100 each was also given as agricultural subsidy to Materan Chero, Somaru Chero and Modi Chero during 1962-63 to purchase bulls.

Animal Husbandry.—The Community Development Block has supplied pedigree pullets and eggs in the village. During 1962-63 the Block supplied 11 eggs and 6 pullets to Basantu Mushar which died. Pullets of one day are usually distributed. The villagers as a rule are not equipped to rear such tender pullets. It is commonly complained that the eggs do not hatch. It is also possible that the

eggs were sold or eaten. It would be much better if pullets are reared in the Block office and the birds are sold when they are two or three weeks old.

No bull has been supplied to the village or to any village near the vicinity. The villagers generally go to village Bajdihwa located at about four miles from Makrikhoh for crossing their animals with the bull. During 1963 about 10 cows and buffaloes had been crossed which were found in the village. 149 cows and buffaloes were treated in Bhagwanpur veterinary dispensary during 1961—63.

Education.—With the help of the Block, one lower primary school has been started in 1962 which has 25 students and one teacher. There was a social education centre in the village but since December, 1962 it stands abolished when the very scheme was given up by the State Government. With the help of the social education centre the villagers have been benefited in becoming literate The incidence of literacy in the village is as follows :—

(1) Scheduled Tribes	. .	8
(2) Scheduled Castes		5
(3) Backward Classes	..	6
TOTAL	..	19

The village has no library and no community centre There is possibility of a readership if a small library was started.

Health and Sanitation.—The village has no health centre. There is a health centre at Ramgarh village located at about eight miles from this village The villagers generally go to Ramgarh or Bhagwanpur for treatment The health worker generally visits the village once in a week to distribute the medicines, if required

No case of small-pox or cholera was reported in the village. During 1962—64 about 129 persons were vaccinated and 131 persons were inoculated.

Co-operative Society.—There is no Co-operative Society in the village nor the village is attached to any Co-operative Society.

Market.—There is no market or *hat* in the village. The villagers have to go either to Bhagwanpur or Bhabua to make their purchases There is only one very small shop which does not meet the requirements.

Cottage Industries and Rural Housing.—There is no work on the cottage industry or rural housing scheme in the village.

Communications.—There is a fair-weather road from Bhagwanpur to village Makrikhoh constructed by the Forest Department but in the village no road has been constructed.

(2) *Village Parari.*—The village is at a distance of 17 miles to the west of Bhagwanpur and 24 miles to the south-west of Bhabua, the subdivisional headquarters It has an area of 1,393 96 acres with 33 households according to the figures supplied by the Block Office.

The population figures are given below:—

(1) Scheduled Tribes	.. ..	60
(2) Scheduled Castes	.. ..	48
(3) Backward Classes	.. ..	47
(4) Others	.. .. ..	45
TOTAL	..	200

The Cheros (tribe) form the majority in the village.

The following persons were examined during the investigation in the village:—

Name of the person.	Age	Caste	Land in acres	Loans taken from differe sources. Cash	Kind	Occupation.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Years.			Rs	Maunds.	
1. Nanahar Chero	55	Tribal	.	50	2	Cultivation and labourer in forest
2. Jhullu Chero	60	Ditto		30	Nil	Ditto.
3 Jalim Chero	35	Ditto	..	75	1	Ditto
4. Foujdar Chero	65	Ditto	..	Nil	3	Ditto
5. Bansi Chero	65	Ditto	..	Nil	Nil	Ditto
6. Sadhu Mallah	45	Mallah	..	75	2	Cultivation.
7. Ramu Adhir Mallah	60	Ditto	.	55	Nil	Ditto.

The details regarding the impact of Community Development Programme are indicated below:—

Agriculture.—During 1958-59, about two maunds of gram seed had been distributed by the block authorities to Ishaq Mia, Jumrahi Mia, Rasul Mia and Shariff Mia but no seed multiplication was done by the villagers. They utilised the seeds in their own fields.

After 1958-59, seeds have not been distributed to anybody. The villagers have not purchased chemical fertilisers as the block authorities have supplied them.

For irrigation and water-supply the village has five drinking-*cum*-irrigational wells but four are privately managed and one has been constructed by the block during 1960-61. With the help of the Village Level Worker, five persons, viz., Ishaq Mia, Manahar Chero, Jhullu Chero, Jalim Chero and Fouzdar Chero have prepared compost for agriculture purposes.

No agricultural paddy seed or agricultural cash subsidy has been given by the Welfare Department to the Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes of this village The Community Development Department has not distributed any pedigree birds or eggs in the village. The villagers generally go to village Bajdihwa for crossing the animals with the bull supplied by the block. About 183 animals were treated in Bhagwanpur veterinary dispensary during 1962—64.

Education.—There is no school in the village and the boys go to Makrikhoh Lower Primary School for study. There was a social education centre in the village but since December, 1962, the scheme has been abolished With the help of the social education centre, there has been some increase in the incidence of literary. The incidence of literacy in the village is as follows:—

(1) Scheduled Tribes	.. ..	5
(2) Scheduled Castes	.. ..	4
(3) Backward Classes	. ..	5
(4) Others	.. . ..	20
TOTAL	..	34

The village has no library, no community centre, nor any provision for recreation.

Health and Sanitation.—There is no health centre in the village. The villagers generally go to Ramgarh Health Centre at a distance of eight miles for treatment. During 1962—64 about 157 persons were vaccinated and 149 were inoculated.

Co-operative Society.—There is no co-operative society in the village.

Market.—Nil. There is only one very small shop in the village which does not meet the requirements of the villagers. The villagers have to go to Bhagwanpur or Bhabua to make their purchases.

Rural Industries, Rural Housing.—No scheme has been taken up by the block or the villagers.

Communications—There is no communication. A man has to reach the village on foot. Within the village, *kutcha* roads have been constructed by the villagers.

(3) *Village Bajdihwa.*—The village is at a distance of 11 miles towards west of Bhagwanpur, the block headquarters and 19 miles towards south-west of Bhabua, the subdivisional headquarters. It has an area of 1,223.97 acres with 34 households.

The population figures castewise are given below:—

Total population	..	180
(1) Scheduled Tribes	.. ..	50
(2) Scheduled Castes	.. ..	19
(3) Backward Classes	.. ..	87
(4) Others	.. .. ..	24

The following persons were interviewed during investigation:—

Name	Age	Caste	Occupation.
	Years		
1. Nagina Singh	47	Rajput	Cultivation.
2 Sheo Tahal Singh	30	Koeri	Ditto.
3 Balrup Mahto	40	Do.	Ditto.
4 Ramadhar Chamar	40	Chamar	Ditto
5 Sukhdeo Chero	75	Tribal	Ditto
6 Su[illegible]er Kahar	60	Kahar	Labourer
7 Gajai Bari	25	Backward	Cultivation.
8 Teju Kahar	40	Ditto	Ditto.
9. Balli Pandey	45	Brahmin	Ditto.
10 Doonath Bind	40	Backward	Ditto
11 Motilall Dusadh	25	Harijan	Ditto

(4) *Village Ramgarh*—The village is at a distance of seven miles west of Bhagwanpur, the block headquarters and fifteen miles towards south-west of Bhabua, the subdivisional headquarters. It has an area of 501 acres with 266 households.

The population figures castewise are given below:—

Total population	..	1,351
(1) Scheduled Tribes	.. ..	5
(2) Scheduled Castes	. ..	327
(3) Backward Classes	.. ..	607
(4) Others	.. .. ..	412

The following persons were examined during investigation:—

Name.	Age	Caste.	Occupation.	Loans taken from different sources Cash.	Kind.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Years			Rs	Maunds.
1. Khichri Chero	30	Tribal	Labourers	100	2
2. Mangru Chero	21	Ditto	Ditto	50	1
3. Gudu Chero	55	Ditto	Ditto	Nil	..
4. Sheo Chero	60	Ditto	Ditto	150	2
5. Sumaro Mushar	35	Harijan	Ditto	Nil	..
6. Jhunak Mushar	60	Ditto	Ditto	Nil	..
7 Dakhi Mushar	35	Ditto	Ditto	75	1
8. Sumair Mushar	23	Ditto	Ditto	Nil	Nil
9. Budhan Mushar	36	Ditto	Ditto	100	2
10. Hukkum Dusadh	40	Ditto	Chowkidar (Service)	85	Nil
11. Batai Dusadh	40	Ditto	Labourer	50	1
12. Bechan Dusadh	22	Ditto	Ditto	Nil	.
13 Ramnandan Dusadh	70	Ditto	Ditto	Nil	..
14. Sitai Dusadh	45	Ditto	Ditto	100	1
15 Bhuneshwar Bahelia	50	Backward	Cultivation and Agricultural labourers.	Nil	..
16. Ram Lagan Chamar	25	Harijan	Ditto	Nil	
17. Sobhan Chamar	45	Ditto	Ditto	100	2
18. Lakhan Chamar	68	Ditto	Ditto	Nil	..
19. Ram Prasad Chamar	28	Ditto	Ditto	Nil	.
20. Sultan Mia	45	Muslim	Cultivation	..	..

The said two villages cannot be said to be tribal. Bajdihwa village has got some tribal population but they are not in a majority.

It may be noted that only the Cheros were found in the four villages visited.

Impact of Community Development Project—These two villages have been much influenced with the opening of Community Development Project at Bhagwanpur.

Agriculture.—The lands of the said two villages are sandy loam. The poor people generally practise terrace agriculture. The main crops grown in the area are paddy, groundnut, maize, gram, etc. Very few irrigation facilities have been provided and the people mainly depend on rainfall.

The Community Development Block has tried to improve agriculture by supplying improved seeds and chemical manures The villagers also prepare compost and apply them to their fields. In village Bajdihwa ten persons and in Ramgarh thirty persons have started to prepare compost with the help of the Village Level Worker.

The table below supplied by the Bhagwanpur Development Block will give an idea of the improved seeds distributed by the Block from 1959-60 to 1962-63 in the said villages·—

Name of the village	1959-60		1960 61.		1961-62.		1962 63	
	Seeds in maunds	Number of families	Seeds in maunds.	Number of families	Seeds in maunds	Number of families	Seeds in maunds	Number of families
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1 Bajdihwa	1	3	3½	6	11½	8	17	9
2 Ramgarh	Nil	..	1	4	2	5	2½	5

(*a*) The seeds were distributed to Nagina Singh, Narayan Singh, Sheo Tahal Singh, Gajar Bari, Sripat Singh and Baya Ram They have distributed about 50 maunds of seeds from 1960-61 to 1963-64 to about 25 persons.

(*b*) In village Ramgarh the seeds were distributed to Sultan Mia, Shri Krishna Singh, Hira Singh, Gudhu Chero, Ram Prasad Gupta and others On investigation from the said persons, it was ascertained they have distributed about 25 maunds of seeds to 21 persons from 1960-61 to 1963-64

The Welfare Department has not supplied agricultural paddy seed or agricultural cash subsidy to any villagers in Bajdihwa or Ramgarh.

Chemical manures.—Since the inception of the Block to 1962-63, 20 maunds of chemical fertilisers to 30 persons in village Ramgarh and 35 maunds to 23 persons in Bajdihwa have been distributed through the Bhabua Co-operative Society. The villages are not attached to any Co-operative Society Hence difficulties in purchasing the chemical fertilisers. During 1963, the villagers of Ramgarh village have started a Co-operative Society and the villages Makrikhoh, Parari and Bajdihwa would be attached with this society.

The attempt of the Community Development Block to introduce partial Japanese method of cultivation has not been successful in the two villages visited because of the nature of the soil and want of irrigation The area is not suitable for this type of cultivation, without proper irrigation. The Japanese method of cultivation was not introduced in village Ramgarh but in village Bajdihwa this method has been introduced in 45 acres from 1958-59 to 1963-64 by 20 families On enquiry it was found that the villagers are not much benefited by the partial method of Japanese cultivation Only line sowing will not be useful and full Japanese method of cultivation cannot be introduced because it requires proper irrigation, line sowing, use of chemical fertilisers and financial stability, etc.

Animal Husbandry.—No pullet or eggs were distributed in village Bajdihwa. The villagers generally rear indigenous type of poultry In Ramgarh village, there is one cheap poultry house maintained by the block which has been neglected by the authorities. The eggs and five pullets had been distributed in 1962 to Karim Mia Saluddin Mia and Shaukat Ali in Ramgarh village.

In village Bajdihwa, one *Hariana* bull had been supplied during 1960-61 but the supply of the bull has not been of much help in providing better breed as the cows are of much shorter stature On enquiry from Shri Nagina Singh of village Bajdihwa it was ascertained that one bull had been supplied during 1958-59 but it died during the same year because it was not properly looked after 227 animals from Ramgarh village and 139 from Bajdihwa village were given treatment in Bhagwanpur Veterinary dispensary during 1962-63 and 1963-64

Education.—With the help of the Block one lower primary school with 20 students and one teacher in village Bajdihwa and one upper primary school with 27 students and one teacher in Ramgarh have been started The villages have no middle or high school. The villagers of Ramgarh send their boys to Bhagwanpur High School but the villagers of Bajdihwa are not in a position to send their boys because it is about 12 miles from Bhagwanpur.

There was also one Social Education Centre at Ramgarh but it does not exist now in the village. There is no library or recreation club in Bajdihwa village but in Ramgarh village there are a small library, one youth club and *kirtan mandali*. The Block has also supplied two footballs, one volley ball and one carom board to the members of a youth club.

The incidence of literacy in 1961 is as follows:—

Village.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Ramgarh	113	12	125
Bajdihwa	30	2	32

Health and Sanitation.—The Block has one health centre at Ramgarh village under the supervision of a health worker who is a matriculate On the average about 15 persons attend the centre daily but they mostly belong to Ramgarh village. The people of Bajdihwa village also go to Ramgarh health centre occasionally for treatment. The villagers are not satisfied with the working of the health centre because the Medical Officer has not visited the centre for six months. They do not want to take medicines from a quack. They either go to Bhagwanpur State dispensary or Bhabua.

For water-supply 22 irrigational-*cum*-drinking wells have been constructed out of which two had been constructed by the Block during 1960-61 and 1961-62. In village Bajdihwa 2 *ahars* and 7 wells have been constructed by the Block.

Besides, four soakage pits and seven borehole latrines have been constructed in village Ramgarh and two soakage pits and three borehole latrines in Bajdihwa village have been constructed by the Block during 1961-62 The impact is nil as the example has not been followed.

Co-operative Society—The villagers of Ramgarh have started one Multi-purpose Co-operative Society in 1963 with 51 members. Rupees 1,831.00 have been advanced this year for agricultural purposes There is no Co-operative Society in Bajdihwa village.

Rural Industries.—There are no small-scale cottage industries either in Ramgarh or Bajdihwa. Only two sewing machines in Ramgarh village have been distributed but the villagers are not benefited in general because it is their personal property.

Rural Housing.—No housing scheme has been taken up either in Ramgarh or Bajdihwa

General discussion.—Out of 186 populated villages under Bhagwanpur Community Development Block, a sample survey of the activities and effect of the Block on two tribal and two non-tribal villages was conducted to find out the impact of the block on the people of the area. In discussing the points, it may be noted

that tribal people have changed their outlook. They do not feel any hesitation in sitting with the non-tribals. They attend the meeting of the Block Development Committee and fearlessly put their grievances and make efforts to get their work done. The Cheros who are tribal claim themselves to be the offshoots of Nagbansi Rajputs and they refuse to be called as Adivasis. But they want the privileges of the tribals.

The conclusion drawn during investigation is as follows:—

Agriculture.—The lands of the villages visited are sandy loam. The people mostly practise terrace agriculture The main crops grown are maize, gram, *sarso, ramtil,* jowar, etc. It appears that due to the propaganda carried on by the Block the villagers have been impressed with the utility of improved agricultural equipments so much so that two comparatively well-to-do people, viz., Nagina Singh of Bajdihwa and Sultan Mia of Ramgarh have purchased Bihar Senior and Junior plough weeders, etc. They loan out their equipments to other villages who are not in a position to purchase them. Though the State Government have begun to supply modern agricultural implements but a man has to incur heavy expenditure in purchasing them. That is why even Raghunandan Chero of village Makrikhoh who has 70 bighas of land, is not inclined to purchase the modern implements.

It is a fact that the Community Development Block has tried to improve agriculture by supplying improved seeds and chemical manures to villagers. But on enquiry from the villagers of Makrikhoh and Parari it was ascertained that these are of no use unless there is a trained personnel to train the villagers. The application of the chemical fertilisers, compost and better seeds is useful only when the rainfall is timely and adequate, otherwise they generally go waste. The Block has provided some irrigational-*cum*-drinking wells in all the villages visited but they are quite inadequate to irrigate the lands. Secondly due to nature of the soil one has to dig about 150 feet in order to get a well that will yield water. Water is an acute problem for the villagers.

In villages Bajdihwa and Ramgarh improved type of crops collected in the households were seen. The rich persons who have their personal wells have utilised the improved seeds and manures in their fields. The villagers, viz., Nagina Singh, Sukhdeo Chero, Motilall Dusadh of Bajdihwa village and Sultan Mia, Karim Mia and Ram Prasad Gupta of Ramgarh village replied that the poor section of villagers take improved seeds not for utilising in their fields but for family consumption.

As regards agricultural paddy seed it may be noted that Welfare Department does not supply good type of seeds. Secondly the Adivasis or Harijans who take agriculture paddy seed from the grain-*gola* at Bhagwanpur generally sell the seeds to the *Mahajans* of Bhagwanpur village at cheap rate.

It has been discussed earlier that Rs. 100.00 each was given to Materan Chero, Modi Chero and Soman Chero to purchase bulls. But when they were contacted by the investigators, they replied that they had purchased bulls at the rate of Rs. 50.00 per bull and the balance (Rs. 50.00) had been utilised by them in family expenditure.

As regards chemical manures, it may be noted that they are generally sold through the Co-operative Societies. In the villages visited no Co-operative Society has been started except one at village Ramgarh with the result that those who even want to purchase cannot get the manures in time. Raghunandan Chero, Modi Chero, Somaru Chero of village Makrikhoh and Nanahar Chero, Jullu Chero and Ramu Ahir of village Parari were interviewed and it was ascertained from them that they made efforts to get the manures in time but it was useless. They are of the view that even the members of Co-operative Society do not get the manures in time.

Secondly, those who have purchased manures, for instance, Nagina Singh, Ram Tahal Singh, Balrup Mahto of Bajdihwa village and Sultan Mia, Ram Prasad Gupta of Ramgarh village have utilised them in their fields only because they are rich and have personal wells for irrigation.

It may also be noted that previously the members of the Co-operative Society used to purchase the chemical fertilisers without paying any interest but since April, 1963, they have, to pay the interest at the rate of 7½ per cent for the total amount of loans taken from the Sociedty.

The villagers appear to have mistaken the Block to be an agency mainly for distributing money or to make available other facilities. One of the basic ideas of Community Development programme was that, spoon feeding will be done at the initial stage and will gradually be diminished when the people will start taking up the work themselves. This objective has not been fulfilled. The villagers think that any scheme either taken or completed by the Block authorities will be eternally looked after by them. For instance, Shri Gopal Narain Singh, Nagina Singh and Sultan Mia who are rich persons and ex-landlords of village Bajdihwa, Ramgarh and Bhagwanpur respectively have also applied for co-operative loan and loan for soil conservation which they could have met from their own resources. Further, there has been a mentality among the people that they should look to the Block always for carrying on even petty works, such as repair of wells, etc. A public drinking well in village Bhagwanpur is in a very deplorable condition, for repairing it Shri Gopal Narain Singh has requested the Block authorities for a loan of so small amount, i.e., Rs. 100.00 which he could have easily met himself. The welfare measures taken by the Block appear to be smothering social consciousness instead of arousing it.

It is an admitted fact that the economic stability of the tribals, Scheduled Castes or Backward people can be assured through agriculture but they are unable to purchase the improved seeds, fertilisers, agricultural implements, etc., because of their poor economic condition.

Animal Husbandry.--The Block has also made attempts to improve the livestock in both the tribal and non-tribal areas by supplying improved bulls. The tribal and backward people are also benefited to some extent along with others in a general way. They have a limited number of cattle and the poultry scheme is too limited in scope to give them much benefits. Before the inception of the Block, the villagers had to go to Bhabua, the subdivisional headquarters, for treatment of the animals. But with the development of the Block, one Veterinary Dispensary and Artificial Insemination Centre have been started at Bhagwanpur village, the block headquarters.

It may be noted that the villagers used to be given Rs. 30.00 per month to maintain the *Hariana* bull supplied in Bajdihwa village. But due to financial emergency this scheme has been abolished. When Nagina Singh, *Mukhiya* of Bajdihwa village was contacted, he replied that *Hariana* bull would be returned to Government very soon because they have no money to maintain the bull. The Community Development Block began supplying pedigree birds and eggs. It may be noted that the Cheros rear only cattle. They do not keep pigs or poultry and they consider them unclean. On enquiry it was found that instead of supplying birds, pullets are supplied to the villagers. Pullets, as mentioned before, die quickly.

The birds and eggs supplied by the Block were quite inadequate as compared with the population of the villages. Though the birds and eggs were supplied to some of the villagers, not much improvement was seen. Eggs are generally sold at the village market at higher price and hardly utilised for hatching.

There is a veterinary dispensary at Bhagwanpur which is taken advantage of by both the non-tribals and tribals. Besides, there is one Animal Husbandry Supervisor attached to Bhagwanpur Block to go round the villages and instructing people regarding cattle diseases and distributing medicines. In villages Makrikhoh, Bajdihwa and Ramgarh troughs have been constructed by the Block authorities during 1962-63 which are filled with water and sprinkled with disinfectants to prevent foot and mouth diseases of animals. The example has not been elsewhere.

Education.—Prior to the inception of the Block there was no school either at village Makrikhoh, Ramgarh or Bajdihwa. The Block has constructed primary schools in the said villages which has been discussed earlier. But in the same way it can be concluded

that the Block has not been of much help in starting educational institutions. Within a radius of ten miles no residential school, middle school or high school has been started. Ramgarh and Bajdihwa are both large villages and have a fair school-going population. The people of Makrikhoh are keen for a primary school in their village. There is no library in any of the three villages, Makrikhoh, Parari and Bajdihwa. For higher education the boys have to go either to Bhagwanpur or Bhabua which is not possible for the villagers.

Health and Sanitation.—It is a fact that one health centre has been started in village Ramgarh, i.e., within the radius of ten miles of village Bajdihwa, Makrikhoh and Parari. When villagers of all these villages were contacted it was ascertained that they were not benefited by the health centre. It was reported that since six months no doctor has visited the health centre. The villagers have to go to Bhagwanpur or Bhabua for treatment. When Jalim Chero of village Parari and Mahadeo Mushar of village Makrikhoh were contacted it was ascertained that in 1962-63, due to absence of doctors, their patients died on the way to Bhabua without any treatment.

The Medical Officer of Bhagwanpur lives at Bhabua, i.e., seven miles from Bhagwanpur. He is also in charge of Adhaura dispensary about 30 miles from Bhagwanpur. It is but natural that he cannot pay much attention to the dispensaries. It is just not possible for a medical officer at Bhabua, 38 miles away from Adhaura, to be looking after Bhagwanpur and Adhaura hospitals and the Health Centres.

Co-operative Society.—No Co-operative Society has been started in village Makrikhoh, Parari or Bajdihwa.

Incidence of Indebtedness.—The incidence of indebtedness in both tribal and non-tribal villages visited is high and the majority of the people are not free from it. The Community Development Block has been of no help in liquidating their indebtedness. It has been discussed earlier that the villagers generally take loans from Sultan Mia of village Ramgarh, Nagina Singh of village Bajdihwa and Gopal Narain Singh of Bhagwanpur and others. The villagers take grains also on loan from them. If a villager takes two maunds of grains he will have to pay 3 maunds in the next year. The *Mahajans* mentioned above are big cultivators and forest contractors who will naturally try to exploit the poor labourers. The labourers work in the forest and get Rs. 1-8-0 per day. On enquiry from Raghunandan Chero, Materan Chero, Haricharan Chero, Baltu Chero, Mahadeo Mushar of village Makrikhoh and Janki Bahelia, Fouzdar Chero, Jhullu Chero of village Parari, it was learnt that they had taken loans from Sultan Mia and Nagina Singh and they pay the dues by way of working in their fields and forests. For

instance, Baltu Chero of village Makrikhoh took loan from Sultan Mia (Rs. 100.00) during 1961 on 37½ per cent interest and he paid the dues by way of working as a labourer in his forest for three months.

Industry.—The Block has not been of any help to the villagers in small-scale cottage type of industries in the villages visited.

Communication.—Easy communication is an important factor for development of any areas. The Community Development provides communication facilities by constructing culverts and *katcha* roads. But no such roads or culverts have been constructed in the villages visited.

IMPACT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT ON THE TRIBAL PEOPLE OF ADHAURA BLOCK (DISTRICT SHAHABAD).

The aims with which Community Development Blocks have been established are the improvement in the economic, cultural, educational and social condition of the people inhabiting the area covered by the block.

To achieve these aims, it is necessary that such means, facilities and agencies be provided as would create an environment in which the villagers become anxious to improve their lot by utilising improved technical aids in the spheres of better agriculture, better animal husbandry and better health; and to raise the social and economic conditions in the village by self-help and co-operation which would help to stimulate cultural, social and educational activities in the village and by intercourse with the neighbourhood and the outside world so that their outlook may be widened.

The Community Development Programme was started in this district in 1952 with the opening of Development Blocks at Sasaram, Sheosagar, Bhabua and Kudra. The Adhaura Block in Bhabua subdivision was started in 1957 as a Special Multi-purpose Project for the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes living in the area. The whole block area of 394 square miles with a population of 16,985 (according to the Census of 1961) lies on Kaimur Plateau and was practically inaccessible. On 21st March, 1959 a fair-weather jeepable road from Bhabua to Adhaura was opened. According to a survey made in 1957 by the block authorities, the block had a population of 14,746 souls of whom 9,038 were tribals. Hence according to that survey the percentage of tribals was 61. The tribals consisted of—

Kharwar	..	..	..	7,463 persons.
Chero	..	..	..	533 „
Oraon	..	..	..	938 „
Korwa	..	..	..	104 „
		TOTAL	..	9,038 „

Of these, Kharwar and Chero people though calling themselves Adivasis (tribals), refuse to be called as belonging to Scheduled Tribes, rather resent being called as such. They call themselves Kshatriyas.

The details of 1961 Census are not available, hence the present percentage of tribal population cannot be definitely stated, but, as only four years have elapsed between 1957 and 1961 the percentage of tribals may still be taken as 61 in this block.

Prior to the establishment of the block the inhabitants, specially the tribals, took the Government as a foreign body and were under the impression that Government officers used to come to the plateau only for enjoying *shikar* sports. The block authorities had great difficulty in convincing the people of the area that the block had been established not for fun of *shikar* but as a permanent unit for the welfare of the people inhabiting the area.

The terrain is so difficult and uninviting that the Government officials posted there had a great sense of horror for the area and did improved but still scarcity of drinking water and eatables haunt not want to stick there. After the construction of the fair-weather jeepable road and a few buildings at Adhaura conditions have a bit the minds of the officials.

As mentioned above Adhaura Block was established in 1957. It covers an area of 394 square miles with 131 villages (out of which 29 are unpopulated) having in all 3,697 families distributed among 3,223 households. There are 12 *gram panchayats* in the area. The tribal population is about 61 per cent as mentioned earlier.

The impact of the Community Development Block on the tribals was studied in five selected villages, namely, Dahar, Lohra, Sarodag Sarki and Sorha. The background of these villages is indicated below:—

(*a*) *Village Dahar.*—This village is situated at a distance of 12 miles from Adhaura, the block headquarters, and 24 miles to the south from Bhabua, the subdivisional headquarters. It has an area of 2,626 acres, has 107 households and a population of approximately 453 persons. The Research Assistant interviewed 15 persons in the village of whom 9 persons were Kharwars, 3 Cheros and 3 *Harijans.* Their names are—

Kharwars.—Bandhu Singh, Geda Singh, Harso Singh, Baran Singh, Hari Prasad Singh (Baiga), Dewal Singh, Jana Singh, Hira Singh and Nazir Singh

Cheros.—Tahal Chero, Sudhu Chero and Mohan Chero.

Harijans.—Ram Peri Ram, Ram Rachhia Ram and Pachoo Ram. Besides these, he had informal conversation with about 100 persons. Details regarding each person interviewed are given below:—

Serial no.	Name.	Age.	Father's name.	Tribes or Castes.	Total number of members in the household.	Loans taken from Co-operative Society.	Loans taken from grain *gola*.	Land held.	Cattle possessed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Years.				Rs.		Bighas.	
1	Sri Bandhu Singh	35	Ganesh Singh	Kharwar	5	100	4 mds. paddy.	3	5 including one milch cow.
2	Sri Geda Singh	36	Chaturi Singh	Ditto	4	..	2 „	1½	
3	Sri Harso Singh	25	Ramdhani Singh.	Ditto	13	..	10 „	30	15 including four milch cows.
4	Sri Baran Singh	52	Baldeo Singh	Ditto	7	90	8 „	30	16 including four milch cows.
5	Sri Hari Prasad Singh	36	Bhailal Singh	Ditto	3	.	..	30	8 including two milch cows.
6	Sri Dewar Singh	50	Gaya Singh	Ditto	6	100	7 mds. paddy.	2	5 including one milch cow.
7	Sri Jana Singh	40	Lori Singh	Ditto	5	.	2 „	8	
8	Sri Hira Singh	29	Kalpo Singh	Ditto	3	100	5 „	8	2
9	Sri Na[illegible] Singh	38	Nanhak Singh	Ditto	6	..	1½ „	1	1
10	Sri Tahal Chero	38	Gharbharan Chero.	Chero	4	Landless labourer.	..	..	..
11	Sri Sadau Chero	30	Sitahal Chero	Do.	3		1 md. paddy	½	Labourer.
12	Sri Mohan Chero	36	Sukhari Chero	Do.	5	.	1 „	½	Ditto.
13	Sri Ram Peri Ram	30	Deoki Ram	Harijan	8	100	3 „	4	9 including two milch cows.
14	Sri Ram Rachhia Ram.	40	Khedaro Ram	Ditto	3	100	1 „	2	5 including two milch cows.
15	Sri Pachoo Ram	20	Dhora Ram	Ditto	5		..	1	2

So far as communication is concerned, it has no proper road. Two miles of *katcha* road have been constructed by the local *gram panchayat* with the aid of block authorities and it connects the village with Bhabua-Adhaura Road. The village has a L. P. School with 20 students. Its building is under construction. It is the headquarters of the *gram panchayat* and of the Village Level Worker. There is a community hall, a co-operative godown, two rural houses for Adivasis and a foot and mouth diseases trough in the village, but these are still under construction. A drinking well existed before the establishment of the block but was in a delapidated condition which has been repaired by the block. Another well for drinking purposes is being excavated.

422 maunds of improved seeds were loaned amongst 51 families and 5 maunds of chemical manures were purchased by 5 families. The villagers took a loan of Rs. 2,000 from the co-operative society of the village.

(*b*) *Village Lohra*.—The village is situated at a distance of about six miles from Adhaura, the block headquarters, towards the south-east and 42 miles from Bhabua, the subdivisional headquarters. The village is approachable by a *katcha* road constructed by the Forest Department. It has an area of 1,783 acres. It has 61 households and a population of approximately 302 persons. The Research Assistant interviewed 15 persons in the village of whom 13 were *Kharwars* and two *Harijans*. They were—*Kharwars*—Ram Naresh Singh, Ujagir Singh, Langa Singh, Basdeo Singh, Bishun Singh, Chaturgun Singh, Phulchand Singh, Ramrup Singh, Phajihat Singh, Kumar Singh, Daroga Singh, Samaru Singh and Jagdeo Singh and *Harijans*—Ganauri Ram and Misri Ram. Besides these, he had informal conversation with about 50 persons. Details regarding each person interviewed are given below:—

Serial no.	Name.	Age.	Father's name	Tribes or Castes	Total number of members in the household	Loan taken from Co-operative Society.	Loans taken from gram-gola.	Land held in acres.	Cattle possessed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Years				Rs			
1	Sri Ram Naresh Singh.	30	Chirkut Singh	Kharwar	4	63	4 mds. paddy 35 srs. wheat.	7	4 including one milch cow.
2	Sri Ujagir Singh	30	Jharia Singh	Ditto	4	40	3 mds paddy.	11	2 including one milch cow.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Years.				Rs			
3	Sri Langa Singh	50	Udhaharan Singh.	Kharwar	4	16	16 srs. gram.	11	7 including one milch cow.
4	Sri Basdeo Singh	60	Doka Singh	Ditto	9	78	8 mds. paddy.	12	7 including one milch cow.
5	Sri Bishun Singh	37	Jageshwar Singh	Ditto	5	54	4 mds paddy. 20 srs. wheat	8	7 including one milch cow.
6	Sri Chaturgun Singh	40	Jethu Singh	Ditto	6	60	4 mds paddy. 20 srs wheat	16	1
7	Sri Phulchand Singh	38	Sukhan Singh	Ditto	7	75	6 mds. paddy 20 srs. wheat	2.76	1
8	Sri Ram Rup Singh	60	Udhaharan Singh	Ditto	9	40	20 srs wheat	16	11 including two milch cows.
9	Sri Phujhet Singh	45	Lallajit Singh	Ditto	6	.	4 mds paddy	11	1
10	Sri Kumar Singh	44	Mahajit Singh	Ditto	6	[illegible]	4½ mds paddy. 20 srs wheat.	4	
11	Sri Daroga Singh	49	Ram Ratan Singh	Ditto	4			12	2 including one milch cow.
12	Sri Sameru Singh	43	Ragho Nandan Singh	Ditto	5		2 mds. paddy.	5	7 including two milch cows.
13	Sri Jagdeo Singh	30	Bali Singh	Ditto	5		2 mds paddy	1 25	
14	Sri Ganauri Ram	12	Bagedu Ram	Harijan	7	64	1 md paddy 10 srs gram	.	6 including one milch cow.
15	Sri Misri Ram	51	Raghunath Ram	Ditto	6			1 22	11 including three milch cows.

It is the headquarters of the Village Level Worker and the local *gram panchayat*. There is a lower primary school having 25 students. Its building is under construction. A community hall, a co-operative godown and 12 rural houses for Adivasis are under construction in the village. There are one *chuan* (spring) and one foot and mouth diseases trough in the village.

60½ maunds of improved seeds were loaned amongst 20 families, and six maunds of chemical manures were purchased by 10 families. The villagers took a loan of Rs. 1,300 from the Co-operative Society of the village.

(*c*) *Village Sarodag.*—The village is situated at a distance of 14 miles from Adhaura, the block headquarters and 50 miles from Bhabua, the subdivisional headquarters. It has an area of 3,409.95 acres, 69 households and a population of approximately 279 persons. The Research Assistant interviewed nine *Kharwars,* two *Harijans,* two Korwas and one Sah (Backward Class). They were—*Kharwars*—Munshi Singh, Chhapan Singh, Bhutu Singh, Chhatanki Singh, Balchand Singh, Bhuar Singh, Karmu Singh, Khushi Singh and Fancha Singh; *Harijan*—Gobind Chamar and Musa Chamar; *Korwas*—Sarwan Korwa and Sukhlal Korwa; and *Sah*—Chhutu Sah. Besides these, about 50 persons were contacted. Details regarding each person interviewed are given below:—

Serial no.	Name.	Age.	Father's name.	Tribes or Castes.	Total number of members in the household.	Loans taken from Co-operative Society.	Loans taken from grain-*gola*.	Land held in acres.	Cattle possessed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Years.				Rs.			
1	Sri Munshi Singh	48	Jogdam Singh	Kharwar	7	100	6 mds. paddy.	30	15 including seven milch cows.
2	Sri Chhapan Singh	40	Rupoo Singh	Ditto	12	..	..	65	16 including thirteen milch cows.
3	Sri Bhutu Singh	44	Bhagirath Singh	Ditto	4	100	..	20	13 including four milch cows.
4	Sri Chhatanki Singh.	52	Babulal Singh	Ditto	4	60	..	10	40 including twenty-five milch cows.
5	Sri Balchand Singh	78	Goga Singh	Ditto	4	66	..	8	
6	Sri Bhuar Singh	32	Sabha Singh	Ditto	6	..	..	15	30 including seventeen milch cows.
7	Sri Karmu Singh	27	Khait Singh	Ditto	2	75	..	7	8 including four milch cows.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Years.				Rs.			
8	Sri Chhotu Sah	46	Feku Sah	Bania	5	..	4 mds. paddy.	4	12 including two milch cows.
9	Sri Khushi Singh	29	Chaturi Singh	Kharwar	7	..	..	3	2 including one milch cow.
10	Fencha Singh	45	Mahabir Singh	Ditto	5	..	..	15	20 including fifteen milch cows.
11	Sri Gobind Chamar	32	Paltan Chamar	Harijan	7	.	..	2	14 including ten milch cows.
12	Sri Musa Chamar	44	Bali Chamar	Ditto	5	..	4 mds. paddy	1	..
13	Sri Sarwan Korwa	47	Briju Korwa	Korwa	5	..	..	.	..
14	Sri Sukhlal Korwa	56	Parsan Korwa	Do.	2	..	..	..	.

The village is connected with Adhaura by a *katcha* hilly road constructed by the Forest Department. The village has an Ayurvedic dispensary maintained by the Welfare Department. It is the headquarters of the Village Level Worker and the *gram panchayat*. A *tasar* seed supply sub-centre is located here. There are a primary school, a co-operative godown, an irrigational bundh and seven rural houses for the Adivasis in the village are under construction. There are one *Chuan* and one foot and mouth diseases trough in the village.

189 maunds of improved seeds were loaned amongst 47 families, and eight maunds of chemical manures were purchased by 40 families. The villagers took a loan of Rs. 1,280 from the Co-operative Society of the village.

(*d*) *Village Sarki*.—The village is situated at a distance of about 20 miles south of Adhaura, the block headquarters and 56 miles from Bhabua, the subdivisional headquarters. It has an area of 388.27 acres having 66 households and a population of approximately 383 persons. The Research Assistant interviewed 14 persons of whom nine were Kharwars, two were Oraons and three belonged to the Scheduled Castes. They were—*Kharwars*—Chamaru Singh, Ramji Singh, Sukkan Singh, Phagun Singh, Sipahi Singh, Jhulan Singh, Gendu Singh, Keshari Singh and Ram Prasad Singh; *Oraons*—Gora and Nandlal; *Scheduled Castes*—Jiman Ram, Sumaro Dusadh

and Sumaro Chamar. Besides these, he met about 40 persons. Details regarding each person interviewed are given below:—

Serial no.	Name.	Age.	Father's name.	Tribes or Castes.	Total number of members in the household.	Loans taken from Co-operative Society.	Loans taken from grain-*gola*.	Land held in acres.	Cattle possessed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Years.				Rs.			
1	Sri Chamaru Singh	42	Mallu Singh	Kharwar	7	..	..	10.59	12 including four milch cows.
2	Sri Ramji Singh	36	Chamaru Singh	Ditto	6	100	1 md. paddy.	10.59	16 including three milch cows.
3	Sri Genda Singh	26	Dhupu Singh	Ditto	7	..	..	2	2 including two milch cows.
4	Sri Keshari Singh	35	Gora Singh	Ditto	6	..	..	9.54	3
5	Sri Sukhan Singh	62	Gopal Singh	Ditto	7	75	..	9.8	5 including three milch cows.
6	Sri Jinan Ram	60	Bithal Ram	Harijan	2	50	..	2	2 including two milch cows.
7	Sri Somaru Dusadh	26	Purhallad Dusadh	Ditto	3	.	..	1	2 including two milch cows.
8	Sri Phagun Singh	26	Thagun Singh	Kharwer	6	200	3 mds. paddy	3	3 including two milch cows.
9	Sri Gora Oraon	36	Jagesar Oraon	Oraon	2	..	.	3	..
10	Sri Nandlal Oraon	40	Fada Oraon	Do.	5	..	..	1	3 including one milch cow.
11	Sri Sipahi Singh	36	Ram Lagan Singh	Kharwar	10	..	..	10.00	4 including one milch cow.
12	Sri Somaru Chamar	38	Domar Chamar	Chamar (Harijan).	4	..	..	2	3
13	Sri Jhulan Singh	36	Bucha Singh	Kharwar	6	50	1 md. paddy.	3.45	6 including three milch cows.
14	Sri Ram Prasad Singh.	35	Maharaj Singh	Ditto	4	100	8 mds. paddy.	14.44	3

It is the headquarters of the Village Level Worker and the *gram panchayat*. There is a residential basic school having 29 students. The village has no road. There are a co-operative godown and a community hall in the village, but these are under construction. There are a foot and mouth diseases trough, a *chuan* and a well in the village.

94 maunds and 18 seers of improved seeds were loaned amongst 30 families and 2½ maunds of chemical manures were purchased by six families. The villagers took a loan of Rs. 775 from the Co-operative Society of the village.

(*e*) *Village Sorha.*—The village is situated at a distance of about 15 miles from Adhaura towards south and 51 miles from Bhabua. It has an area of 633.35 acres with 25 households and a population of approximately 130 persons. There is an irrigational bundh in the village. There are four rural houses for the Adivasis and a drinking well in the village.

25 maunds of improved seeds were loaned amongst 15 families, and two maunds of chemical manures were purchased by four families. The villagers took a loan of Rs. 350 from the Co-operative Society at Sarodag.

In the course of the investigation nine Kharwars, namely, Autar Singh, Ramdeo Singh, Basodeo Singh, Bhagan Singh, Jhari Singh, Dasain Singh, Palhai Singh, Doman Singh and Duarik Singh were examined. Details regarding each person interviewed are given below:—

Serial no.	Name.	Age.	Father's name	Tribes or Castes.	Total number of members in the household.	Loans taken from Co-operative Society.	Loans taken from gram-gola.	Land held in acres.	Cattle possessed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Years.				Rs.			
1	Sri Autar Singh	64	Jhari Singh	Kharwar	3	25	..	1.50	1 including one milch cow.
2	Sri Ramdeo Singh	34	Sadhu Singh	Ditto	6	50	..	15	8 including one milch cow.
3	Sri Jhari Singh	54	Jehali Singh	Ditto	8	40	..	4	6 including two milch cows.
4	Sri Basodeo Singh	39	Sadhu Singh	Ditto	4	..	.	15	6 including four milch cows.
5	Sri Bhagan Singh	43	Gaju Singh	Ditto	6	30	..	2	4 including two milch cows.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Years				Rs.			
6	Sri Dasain Singh	34	Thakur Singh	Kharwar	6	20	..	2.50	6 including two milch cows.
7	Sri Palhai Singh	40	Ditto	Ditto	4	50	..	2.50	2 including one milch cow.
8	Sri Doman Singh	34	Churaman Singh	Ditto	7	40	..	1.50	3
9	Sri Duarik Singh	40	Sarabjit Singh	Ditto	8	50	..	4	4 including two milch cows.

Of these villages only Dahar has got 34 per cent of tribal people and 66 per cent non-tribals. Each of the remaining four villages have nearly cent per cent tribal population, and only a sprinkling of non-tribals.

A study was made of the main trends of the economy of the people. The study discloses that there has been a very slight change in the economic condition of the people, the main occupation of the people of the villages visited still remaining practically the same as it was before the establishment of the block. The main pursuits are still of certain types of unsatisfactory agriculture, rearing of cattle and gathering forest products, such as the different species of myrobalan like *haray, bahera, amla, chirounji, mahua,* etc. They also work as labourers employed by contractors for cutting and carrying timber from the forest. The one peculiarity of the Kharwars and Cheros of this area is that they abhor rearing pigs and poultry, for they consider themselves as high caste Hindus who cannot touch pigs or poultry. Only Oraons who were met in Sarki and Adhaura and Kurwas who were found in Sarodag rear pigs and poultry. Their economic condition still continues to be poor. Details regarding the various pursuits followed in the villages visited are indicated below:—

Agriculture.—The lands of all the villages visited by the Research Assistant are hilly and difficult to till. The people of these villages practise terrace agriculture. The main crop grown in the area is paddy, but *marua,* maize, *bajra, kodo, sawan, ramtil,* are also grown There is no arrangement for irrigation and the villagers have to depend only on rainfall. In years of scanty or ill-distributed rainfall, very little paddy is harvested and the people suffer much specially if other crops also fail. In any case, even if the rainfall is favourable, the produce of the fields suffices for about seven or eight months only. During the remaining period of the year the people subsist on jungle fruit or on loans or by working as labourers in the forest. The Community Development Block has

tried to improve agriculture by supplying improved seeds and manures. The villagers also prepare compost and apply them to their fields. The produce due to the use of chemical manures, compost and better seeds yield better results only when the rainfall is timely and adequate, otherwise they go waste.

In 1963 the Community Development Block succeeded in disposing of directly or through grain-*golas*:—

(*i*) Improved seeds as loan—422 maunds amongst 51 families in village Dahar, 60½ maunds amongst 20 families in village Lohra, 189 maunds amongst 47 families in Sarodag, 25 maunds amongst 15 families in Sorha and 94 maunds and 18 seers amongst 30 families in Sarki. Persons who were not able to repay the loan in grain taken previously were not supplied with grain this year.

(*ii*) Chemical manures through sales—five maunds amongst five families in village Dahar, six maunds amongst ten families in village Lohra, eight maunds amongst 40 families in Sarodag, two maunds amongst four families in Sorha and 2½ maunds amongst six families in Sarki.

From enquiry it was learnt that in each of the villages visited there were a few loanees of improved seeds who had utilised the grains thus received in satisfying their hunger instead of sowing them in the fields. But none would accept having done so. Those who had avowed that they had actually sown their seeds in the fields said that there was some improvement in the produce, though they could not definitely state the quantity of increase in production. There was a general complaint that the improved seeds supplied by the grain-*golas* were not pure, but were mixed with indigenous seed.

Chemical manures have to be purchased by the farmers in cash. Hence there is no element of willingness in these purchases on the part of the farmers, rather the manures have to be thrust upon them through the *Mukhiyas* of the *gram panchayats*.

The block has tried to introduce Japanese method of paddy cultivation in the area, but it has not succeeded in introducing it in any part of the area. The Japanese method requires sufficient manuring, sowing in lines at appropriate distances between the lines and between the plants in the line, the number of seedlings to be put at one and the same place in the row, sufficient water, etc. But the conservatism and backwardness of the people, lack of irrigational facilities and vagaries of the monsoon, lack of sufficient manure, rocky nature of the soil, etc., stand in the way of successful introduction of the method and it appears that the amount of money and energy in introducing this system of paddy cultivation has been a sheer waste.

The block tried to excavate a tank in village Dahar but could not be successful in doing it due to the rocky nature of the soil. The block has constructed a bundh in village Sohra for irrigation purposes but it has not yet been utilised for the purpose because the people are not habituated to irrigate their fields and they say it costs them much labour and time. Moreover at the time of the visit there was no water stored by the bundh. Most probably the bundh has been haphazardly constructed and allowed water to slip out through its bottom. In village Sarodag an irrigational bundh is under construction, but with what result the future can only decide. As a result of this dependence on rainfall for irrigating crops, only the old primitive method of cultivation was possible and found in the villages visited. The method usually followed is scratching the land with a plough to a depth of 2 to 3 inches and scattering seed broadcast and then covering the seed by levelling the land with a wooden board. They do not practise weeding out of sheer laziness.

From an observation of the tribals in the five villages visited it was noticed that the tribals are indolent and shirk work; unless they change their habits very little improvement can be expected in their economic condition. People from the plains, who have migrated to these areas, are much better off, for they are hardy, industrious and also take to the profession of *mahajans.* But their example has not been followed by the tribals.

The incidence of indebtedness is extremely high and practically no tribal family is free from it. In order to reduce the burden of indebtedness, co-operative credit societies have been started which give loans on 7½ per cent interest. This is extremely low as compared to the interest charged on loans granted by *mahajans* who charge 25 per cent interest The people of the villages now generally take loans from co-operative societies and this has brought about some improvement in their economic condition. But as the Co-operative Societies grant loans only for agricultural purposes, the tribals have to take loans from the *mahajans* to meet their other needs. Hence the economic condition has not much improved. Of the villages visited, only Sorha has no Co-operative Society of its own and the villagers of this place take loans from the Sarodag Co-operative Society. An enquiry was made as to the loans given by the Co-operative Societies in 1963 The Co-operative Society at Dahar has advanced a loan of Rs. 2,000, the one at Lohra Rs. 1,300 and the one at Sarki Rs. 775 to the villagers concerned, while that at Sarodag has advanced Rs. 1,280 to the villagers of Sarodag and Rs. 350 to those of Sorha. The grain-*golas* opened by the Government also help the people to free themselves from the clutches of the *mahajans.*

Animal Husbandry.—The Kharwars and the Cheros keep only cows bullocks and buffaloes. They do not keep pigs or poultry which they consider as unclean. The Oraons, Kurwas and the

members of Scheduled Castes, such as Chamars and Doms, keep poultry. Pigs are kept by Oraon, Karwa and Doms. Goats are also kept by some people Cows and she-buffaloes kept by the people do not yield much milk, the maintenance expense is practically nil as they are driven to the jungle in the morning for grazing and collected in the evening. The cattle are of indigenous type, but in the four of the villages visited, viz, Dahar, Lohra, Sarodag and Sarki, one Hariana bull has been supplied to each for improving the breed of cows and one improved type of he-buffalo has been supplied to each of the villages Lohra and Sarodag But this has not been of much help in producing a better breed as the indigenous cows and she-buffaloes are of much shorter stature as compared with the bulls. Much improvement cannot be expected unless there is phased programme for gradually improving the breed by first supplying the villagers with medium sized bulls and when the breed has improved, the big-sized bulls may be supplied Steps should be taken to prevent the cows and buffaloes from mating with indigenous bulls No artificial insemination centre has been started in the villages visited If they had been started the intermediate step suggested need not have to be taken If artificial insemination centres are started the produce of milk and milk products would increase and some improvement in the economic condition of the people is expected.

No steps have been taken to improve the breed of poultry in the villages visited But from the information supplied by the block authority it appears that the block has been supplying pullets and eggs in the area of the block The pullets supplied by the block are generally one day old These if supplied to backward areas could not bring about any improvement in the breed for the following reasons:—(*i*) the tribals will not be in a position to maintain them as they do not know how to do it, i e, they do not know how to keep them, to feed them, to prevent them from falling a prey to their enemies to treat them when they fall ill of diseases peculiar to the improved and imported breed, etc, (*ii*) they do not know how to hatch the eggs produced by them for the hens of the improved breed do not sit on their eggs and they have to learn the use of incubators, otherwise they will have to use indigenous birds for hatching purpose which will lead ultimately to the deterioration of the improved breed

It has been found that even educated people in the urban areas have not been very successful in improving the breed of their poultry out of one day pullets So the illiterate and backward tribals cannot be expected to do justice to these pullets The money and energy spent in distributing these pullets is a sheer waste. Similar is the case with the eggs of improved breeds supplied to the tribals.

One pig of improved type was supplied in 1961 to Lohra village. This resulted in the bringing in pigs of improved type of which only four were found in the village by the Research Assistant On enquiry it was learnt that some of the pigs of improved type had been disposed off

Goats were found in these villages but it appears that little attention is paid to them either by the villagers or by the block authorities

There is a veterinary dispensary at Adhaura which is taken advantage of by the Adivasis along with the other people. Besides the dispensary there is one Animal Husbandry Supervisor attached to the Adhaura Block, to go round the villages instructing people regarding cattle diseases and distributing medicines At villages Sarodag, Lohra and Sarki, troughs have been constructed by the block authorities which are filled with water and sprinkled with disinfectants for foot and mouth diseases of animals Animals entering the village are made to pass through these troughs to disinfect them and thus save them from these diseases The people have become interested in these troughs and are insisting upon construction of such troughs in areas where they do not exist One such trough is being constructed in village Dahar

Industries.—The only cottage industries that were seen in the villages visited were rope making, basket-making and shoe-making and repairing. The Doms and Kurwas manufacture bamboo-baskets, Chamars make and repair shoes and rope is made by males and females of all families of Adivasis These industries yield very little income and are carried out mainly for local use These cottage industries are all indigenous and have not been introduced by the Block There has been no improved technique shown.

Education.—Of the villages visited one lower primary school was found in each of the villages Dahar, Lohra and Sarodag. In village Sarki there is one residential basic school maintained by the Welfare Department which provides free board, lodging and tuition to the students reading in it. There is no educational institution of any type at village Sorha, but 5 students of this village read in Sarki basic school The Welfare Department granted a total of Rs. 120 in 1962-63 to five *Harijan* students of village Dahar. No other villages visited got any help of this kind The incidence of literacy in the villages is as follows—9 persons in Sorha, 16 in Sarki, 36 in Lohra 28 in Sarodag and 65 in Dahar are literate None of the villages visited had a middle or high school in them. There is a small library containing 65 books at village Dahar.

Each of these villages except Sorha has a Community Centre and has been provided with instruments for music and *kirtan*. They are little used

Health and Sanitation.—The Adivasis in the villages visited were found to be physically fit and quite healthy. They are not so neat and clean as their counterpart in the Chotanagpur or the Santal Parganas areas. Still they cannot be called dirty in their habits. The houses of the Adivasis were of the old type with little ventilation and light, but the Community Development Block has begun constructing some houses for them with better ventilation

At village Dahar two such houses are under construction. At village Sarodag four such houses have already been completed and three are under construction At village Lohra 11 such houses are under construction and one has been completed At village Sorha two such houses are under construction and two have been completed. These houses are well-ventilated But they have not been provided with sanitary conveniences The people are, however, not taking kindly to these houses

The most difficult problem is the supply of good drinking water in these villages Attempts have been made to dig wells in the area but they were unsuccessful due to the rocky nature of the soil Drinking water is generally taken from hollows called *chuans*. These are natural or artificial hollows dug in the ground to collect water from streams and rain The only step that the Community Development Block could take was to surround these *chuans* with masonry walls to save them from contamination During the dry season when the *chuans* get nearly dry, people have to take muddy water from them for even drinking purposes. The problem of supply of drinking water remains still unsolved

Dispensaries are becoming popular. People now go to the Allopathic and Ayurvedic dispensaries for treatment But these visits are made when indigenous medicines and treatment by witchcraft have failed. The tribals have taken kindly to vaccination and inoculation. The only Allopathic dispensary is at Adhaura and one Ayurvedic dispensary is at village Sarodag where people from villages visited go for treatment. Besides these the block had opened health sub-centres staffed by persons who go to the villages to advise people regarding health matters and also to treat the patients. But as mentioned the State dispensary at Adhaura had not been provided with a doctor for months together and the block doctor at Bhabua who had been placed in charge of Adhaura dispensary in addition to his own duties had not visited Adhaura for the last three months. The villagers who went there had to be treated by the compounder who combined in himself the functions of both the doctor and the compounder. On enquiry from the people of the villages visited, it appeared that they have no idea of family planning and that no party has visited them on that subject. When this subject was broached upon by the Research Assistant, the people laughed at it as something unnatural and reprehensible.

Gram Panchayat.—Each of the villages visited except Sorha, has a *gram panchayat*. The main functions of these *gram panchayats* are to collect Government revenue, to levy taxes for village uplift, to look after the sanitation and public health in the area in its charge, to do economic development work, to carry on mass literacy and start libraries, to make improvements in communications, to organise and maintain village volunteer force and to administer justice The *gram panchayats* are practically useless for judicial matters, for the people settle their disputes in their tribal and caste *panchayats* The *gram panchayats* perform only non-judicial duty entrusted to them

The *gram panchayats* have not encouraged litigation as has been seen in many other areas. At village Dahai the *gram panchayats* have been successful with the help of the people and the block authorities to construct a road two miles long connecting the village Dahai with the Bhabua-Adhaura road The *Mukhiyas* and the *Sarpanches* of the villages are non-tribals and this shows that the non-tribals have a greater hold on the community

The impact on Adhaura village itself where the Community Development Block has its headquarters was studied. The village has got a series of constructions, houses, water tanks, etc, because of the block headquarters. A high school has recently been started at Adhaura village although there is only one basic middle school throughout Adhaura block which is located at Adhaura village itself The starting of the high school at this stage appears premature Among the other institutions at Adhaura itself, mention may be made of the children's park, a State veterinary dispensary, a State dispensary (which has not been visited by a doctor for more than three months), one grain-*gola*, one Co-operative Society, a nursery and a *gram panchayat*. The block has repaired three wells in the village for drinking purposes and storage tanks have been constructed on the bank of the river Karamnasa at a distance of seven miles from the village Water is brought in the tankers propelled by tractors and supplied to the villagers and the block staff during the hot weather. Besides this two storage tanks one near the block office and the other in the village, have been constructed, for storage of water for drinking purposes A big storage tank is being constructed on the bank of the river Karamnasa for storing water and supplying it to village Adhaura through pipes, which are in the process of being laid.

Conclusion—Out of the 102 populated villages under the Adhaura block a sample survey of the activities and effects of the block on four essentially tribal villages and one village having a mixed population of tribals and non-tribals was made to study the impact of the blocks on the tribals. The impact has been partially successful The main impediments are the conservatism and lethargy of the tribals which prevent them from easily taking

to new ideas. The other impediments are the difficult terrain and lack of good communication which serve to keep the tribals within the shell of their old traditional hereditary ideas To improve the lot of the tribals it is essentially necessary that the block authorities should strive at developing the area through a phased programme drawn up in consultation with the people concerned and entrusting them in the programme, so that the tribals might take the initiative wherever possible and see that the programme is successfully completed. This programming should be done to remove the factors that stand in the way of their development. The major factors are—

(i) lack of communication between the villages and with the outside world,

(ii) lack of facilities for irrigation and supply of good drinking water,

(iii) lack of educational facilities, and

(iv) lack of facilities for the development of cottage industries and training in them

The block has tried to take steps to remove these impediments but in this it has been only partially successful. To improve communication the only work that it has managed to be carried out is the construction of a two-mile long road connecting village Dahar with Bhabua-Adhaura Road The only means of carriage of goods are by head loads or on horses or on bullocks This stands in the way of the economic development of the tribals.

The block has not been able to do anything regarding irrigation except that it has got a bundh constructed in village Sorha and is getting one constructed in village Sarodag for irrigation, but their effect has still to be seen It has till now been able to do very little regarding the supply of drinking water except that it has repaired old wells and *chuans.*

As for agricultural produce there has been no improvement worth the name except that Japanese system of paddy cultivation has been introduced But to be successful, the system requires good and regular supply of water which is sadly lacking in this area. The only places where this system can and has been adopted are where rain water collects in hollows, and even there, there has not been much improvement in production. The Adivasis have been able to extend the area of cultivable land by cultivating waste lands to some extent, but they could not succeed in improving production thereby to any appreciable extent due to lack of irrigational facilities.

Facilities in loan of improved seed have been of some help to the Adivasis but a part of the grain is utilised by indigent tribals towards food. The more well-to-do tribals have been able to improve their crop by sowing the seeds.

The block has tried to improve livestock by supplying bulls of good breed to selected areas for improving the breed. But as there is much difference in the heights of the imported bulls and those of the indigenous female-cattle, and also due to the method of sending cattle to forests for grazing purpose where indigenous bulls abound, negligible improvement could be attained in this direction. Absence of artificial insemination centre is another handicap against improvement in breed Artificial Insemination Centres may with profit be started in the area No steps appear to have been taken towards the improvement of poultry. The veterinary services run under the block are being utilised by the Adivasis to a great extent and are being benefited by these services.

Very little has been done towards the industrial development of the villages visited and the people have to engage themselves in agricultural pursuits for only a few months of the year. In the remaining part of the year they have either to work as labourers or to run about seeking loans for their subsistence. Thus there has been no improvement in the chances of employment of Adivasis. These factors contribute to the continuance of the economic backwardness of the villagers

The co-operative societies started on the persuasion of the block authorities have done some good work in freeing the tribals to some extent from the clutches of the *mahajans* who fleece them and charge an exorbitant rate of compound interest of 25 per cent while the Co-operative Societies charge simple interest at the rate of $7\frac{1}{4}$ per cent only.

The diet of the Adivasis still consist mainly of rice, pulses and other produce of the fields so long as they last During the off-season when these articles grow scarce they take to *mahua*, *piar* and other edible fruit produce in the forest The Kharwar and the Cheros claim that they do not drink wine or toddy but the other Adivasis drink wine prepared from *mahua* They do not drink *handia* (wine brewed from rice) There has been no appreciable change in the dietary habits of the tribals

The block has done very little towards providing educational facilities for the Adivasis It is attempting to construct buildings for lower primary schools already in existence. No steps have so far been taken by the block to upgrade the lower primary schools already existing or to start new ones The block had started adult literacy centres with some success but the Research Assistant learnt that they are now non existant The block has started community centres which have been provided with musical instruments for holding *kirtans* and small dramas. Such centres have become quite popular

The opening of the dispensaries and health sub-centres have been much appreciated but the villagers complained about the

scarcity of the doctor's visit. Medicine and education had started liquidating the deep belief in witchcraft. There is no opposition now to vaccination and inoculation.

The *gram panchayats* are not very popular and most of the villagers take them to be imposition from above and resent the clash between indigenous caste and tribal *panchayats*.

On an enquiry it was found that the block personnel do not have any tribals. None of the block personnel know any of the tribal languages and the language barrier must be an alien element. In course of investigation when some Oraons were spoken to in Oraon language*, the Oraons were at once at home and burst out with their one hundred and one grievances and ideas. On an analysis of their grievances it was clear that they want to be eternally spoon-fed and they would not do anything on their own. This attitude is all the more clear in the case of the Kharwars and the Cheros who resent being described as tribals, claim themselves as good Rajputs and yet want all the advantages and privileges exclusive to the tribals.

It is also unfortunate that practically no one of the block personnel even if he belongs to Shahabad district likes the area and at the slightest cause rather go away on leave. The beat of the village level workers consisting of 9 villages on the average is rather wide because the villages are few and far between. None of the village level workers knows the tribal languages. The terrain and the jungles do not allow cycling as a normal mode of conveyance and it is not known if the village level workers are regular in visits to the villages.

Briefly the impact of the Community Development Block on the tribals has been appreciable but with limitations. The total expenditure of Adhaura Block since its inception in 1957 to 31st October 1963 is Rs. 20,97,170.56. The details will be found elsewhere in the coverage on Adhaura Block. Out of this amount the establishment expenditure is Rs. 7,52,283.78. The housing for the staff has cost Rs. 1,34,673.84. Coming to some more details the expenditure on rural arts and crafts—industries is Rs. 2,21,615.15. A sum of Rs. 1,36,442.11 was spent on health and rural sanitation. Rural housing had cost Rs. 98,967.00. From the investigation it was not possible to say that these large sums were well spent and have yielded results. At Adhaura village itself the rural housing of a few Oraons was bitterly criticised by the Oraons as being incomplete. The Training *cum*-Production Centres have not yielded proper results and have not improved employment facilities. Most of the centres run because the trainees were given stipends. It was probably not

* The Editor of the Shahabad District Gazetteer did so (P. C. R. C.)

very well advised to start the centres as a matter of routine as blacksmithy, carpentry, etc., as indigenous crafts are already there and the market for the finished goods or the demand for such technical work is extremely limited. The chief markets as mentioned elsewhere are in the plains. It is clear that excepting the *Tasar* seed supply centre at Sarodag, no other centre has done much good to the villagers.

Level of Prices.

Price level, wage structure and the scope for employment are the main factors to indicate the economic trends of any place. The level of prices has a bearing both on the real income and the standard of living of the people. Rise in the prices with the income being constant lowers the purchasing power of money and affects the consumers directly. A review of the price level from the last quarter of the nineteenth century to the present time will be important to understand the material condition of the people.

W. W. Hunter in the *Statistical Account of Bengal* had given information regarding the prices of the district. He mentions as follows.—

"The variation in prices for the ten years from 1863 to 1872, in the Sasseram subdivision, may be taken to fairly represent the rates for the whole district. In 1863, common husked rice was selling at 15 seers for the rupee, or 7s 6d. a hundred weight, wheat at 16½ seers for the rupee, or 6s 9d a hundred weight, *marua*, at 17½ seers for the rupee, or 6s 5d. a hundred weight barley, at 17½ seers for the rupee, or 6s 6d a hundred weight, and *khesari*, at 24¼ seers for the rupee, or 4s 7½d a hundred weight. During the next three years prices were high, owing to a succession of bad harvests. Rice and wheat sold at 11½ seers for the rupee, or 9s 9d a hundred weight, *marua*, at 13 seers for the rupee, or 8s 7d a hundred weight; barley, at 20 seers the rupee, or 5s 7d a hundred weight; and *khesari* at 17 seers the rupee, or 6s 7d. a hundred weight. By 1868 prices had returned to the normal rates. Rice sold at 16 seers the rupee, or 7s a hundred weight; wheat, at 12 seers the rupee, or 9s 4d a hundred weight; *marua* at 20½ seers the rupee, or 5s 4d a hundred weight, barley at 15 seers the rupee, or 7s 6d a hundred weight, and *khesari*, at 24 seers the rupee, or 4s 9d a hundred weight. Early in 1872 common rice was selling at 17½ seers the rupee, or 6s 5d a hundred weight; wheat at 20 seers the rupee, or 5s 5d a hundred weight; *marua* at 24 seers

the rupee, or 4s. 9d. a hundred weight; barley, at 23 seers the rupee, or 4s. 11d. a hundred weight; and *khesari*, at 26¼ seers the rupee, or 4s. 3d. a hundred weight. During the scarcity of 1874-75, rice sold in June 1874 at 10¾ seers the rupee, or 10s 5d a hundred weight and wheat at 14½ seers the rupee, or 7s 8½d a hundred weight These were the highest prices during the year. After this the price fell, till in December 1874 rice was selling at 20 seers, and wheat at 19 seers, for the rupee, or at 5s 5d and 5s 8 d a hundred weight respectively."*

From the following account given in the *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) it appears that the prices of the agricultural produce showed upward tendency.—

"The following table gives the average price of staple food crops in Shahabad published by authority of the Local Government under section 39 of the Bengal Tenancy Act from 1888 to 1922 —

Year	Arrah		Buxar		Sasaram		Bhabhua	
	Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Rice
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	S ch	S ch	S ch	S ch	S ch	S ch	S ch	S ch
1888	1[illegible] 4	16 5	15 8	16 12	16 [illegible]	15 2	15 8	13 5
1889	14 13	14 7	14 12	13 14	15 1[illegible]	14 8	14 15	12 14
1890	15 12	15 9	15 9	15 1	16 8	15 1	15 13	13 7
1891	1[illegible] [illegible]	15 0	13 15	14 15	14 7	14 14	1[illegible] 9	13 1
1892	12 2	11 11	11 4	12 1	13 [illegible]	11 8	13 4	10 14
1893	13 2	13 2	13 13	13 10	14 12	13 6	13 13	12 3
1894	13 14	13 3	14 10	11 [illegible]	13 2	[illegible]4 1	13 10	15 0
1895	13 4	1[illegible] 10	13 13	14 13	1[illegible] 11	[illegible] 12	13 3	14 2
1896	11 4	13 9	11 11	12 13	12 2	13 10	11 10	11 11
1897	9 3	9 0	9 10	9 6	9 14	8 10	9 6	9 0
1898	13 13	13 10	14 7	15 0	14 0	13 12	14 2	12 5
1899	15 14	15 2	15 6	15 [illegible]	16 10	16 13	11 9	13 15

* *Statistical Account of Bengal, District Shahabad,* ***W. W. Hunter,*** **1877 (pages 244-245)**

Year	Arrah		Buxar		Sasaram		Bhabhua.	
	Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Rice.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	S ch	S ch	S ch	S ch	S ch	S ch	S ch.	S ch.
1900	11 12	11 9	11 15	12 11	12 6	12 7	11 9	12 1
1901	[illegible] 11	11 6	11 14	12 3	12 5	11 4	12 1	10 5
1902	12 11	11 4	13 3	11 14	13 8	12 2	13 10	12 11
1903	14 5	11 1	14 15	11 1[illegible]	15 4	15 7	15 15	15 12
1904	17 2	14 0	16 13	15 5	16 11	1[illegible] 0	18 3	15 13
1905	13 15	13 4	13 10	14 0	14 2	14 7	15 4	14 14
1906	10 15	10 7	11 3	10 14	12 1	11 2	12 4	11 13
1907	10 7	9 1	10 7	9 2	10 11	8 13	11 3	9 9
1908	7 14	7 15	7 13	7 12	7 8	7 7	8 0	8 7
1909	9 9	9 11	9 6	9 11	9 9	9 7	9 8	9 12
1910	10 11	12 2	10 10	12 10	11 11	13 4	11 12	12 9
1911	12 5	12 12	13 6	12 15	13 8	12 6	14 15	13 2
1912	12 4	11 13	12 6	12 1	12 5	11 1	13 10	11 14
1913	10 18	9 1	11 0	9 13	11 2	9 [illegible]	11 12	9 4
1914	10 1	8 5	9 9	8 11	9 10	8 [illegible]	10 3	8 12
1915	7 9	8 8	7 12	8 4	7 12	7 2	7 14	8 5
1916	8 11	8 12	9 9	9 4	9 9	[illegible] 3	9 15	10 1
1917	9 6	10 12	9 8	11 11	9 12	11 5	10 8	12 8
1918	7 4	10 2	7 4	10 3	8 0	10 0	8 3	10 4
1919	5 13	5 6	5 13	5 8	[illegible] 11	5 14	6 8	5 14
1920	6 3	5 12	6 9	6 7	6 5	8 11	6 12	5 14
1921	6 5	6 12	6 3	7 3	6 3	6 15	6 5	6 11
1922	6 0	6 10	6 5	7 2	6 11	6 9	6 6	7 6

The most striking feature in these lists is the very great rise in prices in the last eight years, during which the normal prices of wheat and rice have been equivalent to what would a few years ago have been regarded as famine prices. It is interesting to compare these

prices with those obtaining 140 years age;* when the finest kind of rice sold at between 31 and 44 seers and paddy at 95 to 129 seers per rupee, while the price of wheat ranged from 55 to 64 seers and of gram from 72 to 104 seers per rupee. The prices of grain have risen enormously during the last hundred years; but on the other hand there has been a relative growth in the income of all classes, and during the last generation the development of communications has had the effect of levelling prices over larger and larger areas. The loss of one or even two crops of the year has therefore a tendency to become less and less felt, as well as the effect of failures in isolated tracts Up to the end of last century there was only one line of railway running through the two subdivisions of Arrah and Buxar, but since that time communications have been greatly improved by the construction of the Grand Chord Line in the south of the district, the light railway from Arrah to Sasaram which connects these two lines of the East Indian Railway, and the smaller light railway from Dehri to Rohtas The variation in prices between different parts of the district is accordingly less marked than formerly, when the railway only tapped the north of the district. High prices of foodgrains should be beneficial to the bulk of the people, who live by cultivation but the middlemen derive the benefit most. The rise in prices has had this effect in the north of the district, where the *guzashtadars* have larger surplus stocks of grain than the cultivators elsewhere, but speaking generally, so large a proportion of the crop which is left, after provision has been made for rent and seed, is required to feed the cultivator's family, that he benefits from the great rise in prices less than would be expected. At the same time, the occupancy raiyat does have a larger surplus from the fact that his rent represents a smaller proportion of his crop because enhancement of rent on the ground of rise in prices does not keep pace with the actual rise Agricultural labour is ordinarily paid in kind, and so is little affected; but the classes which are unfavourably affected by the rise are the smaller landlords, and all whose incomes are fixed in cash".†

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* *For a list of the prices current in 1781 and 1782, two average years, see Early English Administration of Bihar, by J. R. Hand*, pages 61-62 or the *Revenue Chief of Bihar*, pages 168—171

† *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), pages 101-102.

It may be noted that the price level of most of the essential commodities in common with the other districts of the province had shot up with the declaration of the First World War in 1914 and had a steady rise till the close of the war in 1918. At the beginning of the war the effect was not very perceptible but from 1917 onwards, the prices of imported articles like cloth, salt and kerosene oil began to increase and the position became acute. It is reported that the price of the foodgrains remained at high level till 1929. Generally speaking the observation in the revised Purnea District Gazetteer* may be taken into account which hold good for this area also. Both these districts are rice producing areas. Rice was being sold on the average of 5 to 6 seers per rupee, wheat 6 to 6½ seers and gram and maize 7 to 8 seers per rupee. The agriculturists and the middlemen made good profit. It further mentions that the world-wide slump which ensued from the closing months of 1929 brought in a sharp fall in price of foodgrains. The agriculturists were hard hit though it was a boon for the service holders or people with more or less fixed income. The downward trend of the prices continued more or less till 1938.

The result of this fall in the prices of foodgrains was rather disastrous for cultivators. The district being primarily agricultural suffered as a result of the agricultural depression. Some of the recurring expenditure, namely, land revenue and interest in face of the low prices of foodgrains caused great hardship to the agricultural population. *Zamindars* defaulted in paying up their land revenue as the tenants defaulted in paying up their rentals. Arrears of rent began to accumulate and the landlords filed rent-suits in thousands in order to escape from the laws of limitation. An important effect of this depression was that the agricultural holdings began to pass into the possession of the landlords and the money-lenders in execution of decrees obtained for arrear of rent and default in payment of loans taken by the mortgage of holdings. There was a slump in engagements for casual labourers.

The low economic incidence of the cultivators because of the rapid fall of the agricultural produce had its outburst in a widespread *kisan* agitation. The *kisan* agitation was almost a peasant's revolution and a few leaders like Swami Shahajananda Saraswati, Yadunandan Sharma, Swami Bhawani Dayal Sanyasi toured throughout the district and spearheaded the agitation. There were two prongs of this agitation—one was against the *zamindars* and the middlemen and the other was against the British Government. For sometime the *kisan* agitation ran almost parallel to the Congress movement but ultimately the thunder of the *kisan sabha* movement was stolen by the Congress leaders. Bhawani Dayal, a man of Shahabad district and a long resident of South Africa ultimately became the President of the Shahabad District Congress Committee.

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* *District Gazetteer of Purnea* (1963), page 396.

Most of the *kisan sabha* leaders used to attend the Congress meetings and a Congress leader also participated in the meetings of the *kisan sabha*. In Shahabad district the *kisan sabha* movement had a separate pattern as the cultivators had to pay a lot of bribe to get the canal water The canal rates were, by themselves not very high although they were one of the targets of agitation but the corruption that was prevalent in the canal office was extremely galling. It may also be recalled that the agitation was particularly canalised against some of the big *zamindars* of the district It is not that the some of the big *zamindars* of the district had not been discharging their social obligations by sponsoring charitable institutions or by helping the tenants in the distress, but it was proclaimed that they should do much more and that their very role as middlemen was bitter and outmoded The large number of rent suits, mortgage suits, loan suits evictions from patrimony that the low prices brought in were yoked to the general agitation against the constitutional Government and the yearning for throwing away the British Raj As a matter of fact, the *kisan* agitation was a very big factor for the ultimate abolition of *zamindari*

The price level started again spiralling with the declaration of the Second World War in September, 1939 The years immediately followed in were chaotic so far as the prices were concerned and there were hardly any relationship with the produce and the prices. There was no slump in production but both the cultivators and the tradesmen started taking their pound of share Any big cultivators who could possibly hold back the stock did so with a relish and the common talk with the big agriculturists was "Ek botal galla ek rupaiya," i.e., they wanted the price artificially to shoot up so that one bottle of rice would cost one rupee.* The middlemen, stockists, the tradesmen conspired to hold back the grains after making a purchase from the cultivators The fair price shops opened in the urban areas did give some relief but various factors stood on the way of bringing in food supply of grains in the open market. The speculators stuck to their hoards in the expectations that the war would be prolonged. It was a job for the Price Control Officers, Subdivisional Magistrates and the District Magistrate to effectively execute the price control measures The price of cloth also went up and owing to war demands cloth was also controlled The standard cloth made at the instance of the Government used to sell cheap but was not popular. An ordinary *sari* would be sold in the open market for Rs 8 or more while the price of a superfine *dhoti* or *sari* in the open market was about Rs 15.

Various Government measures were adopted to keep down the level of prices. The Paddy Procurement Order was promulgated and paddy used to be seized at the *Khalihan* (threshing floor) if the

* This was an experience gathered by the Editor when he was the Subdivisional Magistrate in Arrah in 1943.

produce was large. The Government stockists were appointed and a buffer bank of grains was sought to be created. The fair price shops sold grains, cloths, kerosene oil, etc, at controlled prices but the supply was practically always intermittent and short. Free movement of the commodities was severely restricted and hoarding out the consumers' house was prohibited It is, however, a fact that in spite of all these measures prices were not brought down to any appreciable extent

The *District Census Hand-Book, Shahabad* (1951), mentions the ruling wholesale prices of a decade, i e, from 1941 to 1950 The perusal of the statistics will show that after the close of the Second World War the prices of the foodgrains had increased considerably. The statistics below from the same source will show the prices of the foodgrains in the years 1941 to 1950 —

Ruling wholesale prices during the decade

Price (per maund).

Year	Month	Rice (medium)			Wheat (red)			Gram		
		Rs	a	p	Rs	a	p	Rs	a.	p.
1941	January	4	13	0	Not available			3	4	0
	February	4	10	0	Ditto			3	0	0
	March	4	10	0	Ditto			2	8	0
	April	5	0	0	Ditto			2	11	0
	May	5	10	0	Ditto			2	11	0
	June	5	5	0	Ditto			3	4	0
	July	6	4	0	Ditto			3	4	0
	August	5	3	0	Ditto			3	6	0
	September	5	3	0	Ditto			3	6	0
	October	5	6	0	Ditto			3	6	0
	November	5	6	0	Ditto			3	6	0
	December	5	2	0	Ditto			3	11	0
1942	January	5	2	0	Not available			3	11	0
	February	5	3	0	Ditto			3	9	0
	March	5	6	0	Ditto			3	9	0
	April	5	6	0	Ditto			3	0	0
	May	7	0	0	Ditto			3	2	0
	June	7	0	0	Ditto			3	6	0
	July	7	4	0	Ditto			4	2	0
	August	7	0	0	Ditto			5	0	0
	September	7	0	0	Ditto			5	8	0
	October	7	0	0	Ditto			5	8	0
	November	7	4	0	Ditto			5	8	0
	December	7	4	0	Ditto			7	0	0
1943	January	7	12	0	Not available			7	0	0
	February	9	10	0	Ditto			7	0	0
	March	9	10	0	Ditto			6	0	0
	April	9	10	0	9	8	0	6	0	0
	May	9	10	0	11	8	0	8	8	0
	June	25	8	0	18	0	0	15	12	0
	July	22	8	0	18	0	0	15	8	0
	August	22	12	0	18	0	0	14	8	0
	September	18	0	0	18	0	0	12	8	0
	October	15	4	0	17	0	0	12	8	0
	November	15	8	0	16	0	0	12	0	0
	December	11	8	0	15	0	0	10	12	0

Price (per maund)

Year	Month	Rice (medium)			Wheat (red)			Gram		
		Rs	a	p	Rs	a	p	Rs	a	p
1944	January	12	0	0	15	0	0	10	0	0
	February	12	10	0	15	0	0	10	0	0
	March	12	10	0	15	0	0	10	0	0
	April	13	0	0	15	0	0	9	0	0
	May	11	8	0	10	8	0	7	8	0
	June	12	10	0	12	4	0	8	0	0
	July	12	10	0	12	8	0	8	8	0
	August	12	10	0	12	8	0	9	0	0
	September	11	8	0	12	8	0	9	0	0
	October	11	0	0	11	0	0	8	0	0
	November	10	0	0	11	0	0	8	0	0
	December	10	0	0	11	0	0	8	0	0
1945	January	10	6	0	11	0	0	8	0	0
	February	10	6	0	11	8	0	8	0	0
	March	10	8	0	11	8	0	8	0	0
	April	10	14	0	11	8	0	8	0	0
	May	11	0	0	11	8	0	8	0	0
	June	11	0	0	11	8	0	8	0	0
	July	11	0	0	11	8	0	8	0	0
	August	13	0	0	11	12	0	9	12	0
	September	10	0	0	11	12	0	9	8	0
	October	10	6	0	11	12	0	9	8	0
	November	10	6	0	11	12	0	9	8	0
	December	10	6	0	11	12	0	9	8	0
1946	January	10	14	0	12	0	0	9	12	0
	February	17	0	0	12	0	0	9	12	0
	March	17	0	0	12	0	0	9	12	0
	April	10	14	0	12	0	0	9	12	0
	May	10	6	0	11	8	0	9	12	0
	June	10	6	0	11	8	0	9	12	0
	July	10	6	0	11	8	0	9	8	0
	August	13	12	0	14	8	0	16	0	0
	September	13	12	0	14	8	0	16	0	0
	October	13	12	0	14	8	0	16	0	0
	November	13	12	0	14	8	0	16	0	0
	December	13	12	0	14	8	0	16	0	0
1947	January	13	12	0	14	8	0	16	0	0
	February	13	12	0	14	8	0	16	0	0
	March	13	12	0	13	8	0	16	0	0
	April	13	12	0	12	12	0	14	0	0
	May	18	1	0	12	0	0	14	0	0
	June	18	1	0	12	0	0	18	1	0
	July	25	12	0	14	0	0	19	2	0
	August	25	12	0	14	8	0	20	0	0
	September	25	0	0	26	0	0	20	0	0
	October	24	0	0	27	0	0	18	0	0
	November	23	0	0	27	0	0	18	0	0
	December	18	0	0	26	0	0	17	0	0

Price (per maund).

Year	Month	Rice (medium)			Wheat (red)			Gram		
		Rs.	a	p	Rs	a	p	Rs	a	p
1948	January	22	0	0	26	10	0	18	13	0
	February	14	8	0	26	10	0	12	0	0
	March	17	12	0	20	0	0	11	7	0
	April	17	12	0	21	5	0	13	5	0
	May	17	12	0	21	0	0	14	14	0
	June	23	0	0	23	0	0	15	0	0
	July	24	10	0	26	0	0	14	0	0
	August	24	10	0	26	11	0	15	4	0
	September	23	12	0	27	10	0	15	8	0
	October	20	0	0	26	10	0	15	8	0
	November	18	12	0	24	8	0	13	5	0
	December	17	12	0	22	13	0	14	8	0
1949	*January*	*20*	*0*	*0*	*22*	*14*	*0*	*13*	*14*	0
	February	20	0	0	26	0	0	16	0	0
	March	21	0	0	25	0	0	14	9	0
	April	21	10	0	22	14	0	13	5	0
	May	21	5	0	[illegible]	5	0	13	5	0
	June	19	0	0	22	14	0	12	13	0
	July	21	0	0	22	8	0	13	0	0
	August	19	0	0	22	14	0	14	8	0
	September	21	5	0	20	8	0	13	5	0
	October	21	5	0	20	8	0	13	5	0
	November	20	10	0	21	5	0	13	5	0
	December	19	6	0	21	4	0	13	8	0
1950	January	20	0	0	21	0	0	13	0	0
	February	21	0	0	22	14	0	17	12	0
	March	22	14	0	24	10	0	16	13	0
	April	24	8	0	22	8	0	15	0	0
	May	21	0	0	[illegible]	0	0	14	0	0
	June	24	8	0	23	0	0	15	0	0
	July	26	0	0	22	0	0	18	0	0
	August	26	0	0	25	0	0	20	0	0
	September	26	0	0	[illegible]	0	0	20	0	0
	October	26	11	0	25	0	0	22	0	0
	November	27	0	0	25	0	0	21	0	0
	December	27	0	0	25	0	0	20	0	0*

The perusal of the statistics will show that the prices of the foodgrains from January, 1941 to May, 1943 were somewhat stabilised due to stringent measures taken by the Government. From June, 1943 the price of rice and the other commodities showed an abrupt rise In June, 1943 the price of rice was Rs. 25-8-0 per maund In December, 1943, during harvest season the price of rice came down to Rs. 11-8 0 per maund. In 1944—46 the price fluctuated between Rs. 10 to Rs. 18 per maund, but from July, 1947 it again shot up to Rs 25-12-0 per maund and showed a gradual fluctuation and even in the harvest month of December it was sold

* *District Census Hand-Book of Shahabad*, 1951, pages 117—120.

at Rs. 18-0-0 per maund. There was a remarkable rise of price in other foodgrains also. The price level remained high throughout 1950 and particularly from July, 1950.

It may be noted that in 1951 the price level shot up all the more but after this year it began to fall. This is evident from the index number of the wholesale prices given below:—*

Base : September, 1939=100.

Year	Rice	Wheat	Gram
1950	732.0	716.8	506.9
1951	829.0	748.3	612.0
1952	745.6	672.2	584.9
1953	579.3	583.0	529.6
1954	425.9	461.5	329.5

Though the index number of the wholesale prices is for the whole Bihar, it is also applicable to this district with minor variation. From the above table it seems that 1951 was the peak year for the increase in the prices of the commodities.

The rise in the prices of the essential commodities improved the condition of the big and middle class cultivators to some extent. But the landless labourers, small cultivators and people with fixed income suffered acutely.

After 1954 the prices again began to rise. The figures of the prices of the different commodities in the district are not available. Hence the prices per maund prevailing at Patna in September, 1954 and in Bihar in September, 1957 were taken. This holds good for this district also which are shown here.—

Year	Rice (medium)	Wheat (red)	Gram
	Rs	Rs	Rs
September, 1954†	16.00	14.00	10.50
September, 1957‡	24.72	17.86	14.15

The prices in 1957 were fairly high in comparison with the prices in 1954 but they are, however, less when compared with the prices prevailing in 1949-50 and 1951.

The District Supply Office at Shahabad had supplied the figures showing the wholesale prices of the foodgrains from 1958 to 1961. The table shows fluctuation of the price level for these years.

* *Bihar Statistical Hand-Book*, 1955, *published by the Directorate of Economics and Statistics Bihar*, page 264.

† *Quarterly Bulletin of Statistics, Bihar, October*, 1954, *published by the Director of Economics and Statistics, Bihar*, page 101.

‡ *Quarterly Bulletin of Statistics, Bihar, October*, 1957, page 86.

The table obtained is as follows*:—

(*Price per maund.*)

Year	Paddy (coarse)		Rice (coarse)		Wheat (white)		Wheat (red)	
	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Rs a p.	Rs a p	Rs a p.	Rs a. p.	Rs a. p	Rs a p	Rs a p.	Rs a p.
1958	9 0 0	21 0 0	18 0 0	33 0 0	15 8 0	26 0 0	10 8 0	15 0 0
1959	8 0 0	16 0 0	16 0 0	28 0 0	17 0 0	26 0 0	11 0 0	18 0 0
1960	10 0 0	22 0 0	20 0 0	26 0 0	19 0 0	28 0 0	13 0 0	20 0 0
1961	12 0 0	26 0 0	24 0 0	30 0 0	21 0 0	28 0 0	16 0 0	22 0 0

The upward movement in the prices since 1958 still continues in the district. After October, 1962 the big merchants and the wholesale and the retail dealers tried to hoard the essential commodities just after the Chinese aggression to make higher profit and as such the price level went up But efforts were made to stabilise the price level. The working of the fair price shops has been tightened up and control has been imposed upon sugar.

Level of Wages.

The study of the wage level is essential for a proper understanding of the standard of living of the people. Trends in the wages can be studied under two heads—agricultural wages and non-agricultural wages. Wage-level is, of course, intimately associated with the prices of the essential commodities. If the prices rise and there is a proportionate rise in the wage-level, a higher standard of life may be possible but at the cost of more expenditure If the prices rise very much higher than the proportionate rise in the wages, very little relief will be felt although the cash a man earns may be much more. Let us first discuss the level of wages, agricultural and non-agricultural

So far as reliable statistics of agricultural wages are concerned, they are not very satisfactory as till recently no such data were collected on any uniform basis. Generally landless people who reside in the rural areas offer themselves for agricultural labour. The cultivators who possess a large area of land require to engage labour and the small cultivators themselves do the agricultural work with

* Source.—District Supply Office, Shahabad.

the help of the members of their families. The agricultural labourers are of two types—one of permanent nature and the other of casual nature. Further, heavy agricultural operations like ploughing, irrigation and threshing, etc., are done by the male labourers, while lighter work such as transplantation and reaping is shared by the women. The variations in the prices of food-crops did not affect them much as long as there were any agricultural operations in progress yielding a crop worth harvesting.

Regarding wages W. W. Hunter in the *Statistical Account of Bengal, district Shahabad,* mentions*:—

"Wages and prices are reported to have risen in Shahabad District but the Collector does not give the details for early years. According to Dr. Buchanan-Hamilton, day labourers were in 1812 allowed from one bundle in twenty to one bundle in thirty-two of what they reaped; but as their bundles were always considerably larger than those which the owner received, the rate of their wages could not be correctly ascertained. By calculating the most usual allowances given to day labourers in each division, Dr. Buchanan-Hamilton found that the rate varied from 3¾ to 8¾ per cent of the gross produce. The quantity of grain reaped daily by one man varied in different parts from 81½ lbs. to 349 lbs., the amount being greatest when the rate of pay was lowest, and *vice versa* The reaper, therefore, received from 9½ lbs to 21 lbs. as his share. He had to carry the grain to the threshing floor; and was also required, when the rate of wage for reaping was high, to thresh for nothing what he had reaped The whole expense of harvesting charged to the landlord varied from 6 to 11 per cent of the gross produce.

"There is now no regular rate of wages common to the whole district. Wherever the Government irrigation scheme has created a demand for labour, the rate has risen to 2 annas or 3d a day for unskilled labour, but in the more remote parts of the district, the old rates still prevail. The cost of skilled labour has also risen considerably of late years. Before the opening of the canal works, masons, carpenters and blacksmiths received from 3 to 4 annas or from 4½d to 6d. for a day's work Now, masons received from 4 to 4¾ annas, or from 6d to 7d ; carpenters from 4 to 6 annas, or from 6d. to 9d. and blacksmiths from 4 annas 8 pies to 6 annas, or from 7d. to 9d for the

* *Statistical Account of Bengal, district Shahabad*, 1877, pages 243-244.

> same work. Unskilled labourers usually get from 1 anna 6 pies to 2 annas, or from 2¼d. to 3d. per diem, but those employed on the canal works often receive 2 annas 6 pies or 3¾d. Agricultural labourers are generally paid in grain, at the rate of 5 lbs per diem. Women and children receive half wages, 1 anna or 1½d for a day's work—a very low rate, considering the amount of labour that a woman can perform in these districts."

The later picture of the conditions in 1906 will be appreciated from the following observations of O'Malley* —

> "There has been a rise in the prices of labour during the last 30 years, which is probably due to a great extent to such special causes as the construction of the Sone Canals and, more recently, of the Mughalsarai-Gaya line of railway. Before the opening of the canal works, mason, carpenters and blacksmiths received from 3 to 4 annas a day, but the demand for labour created by this scheme resulted in a considerable rise of wages. Masons began to earn 4 to 4¾ annas, carpenters 4 to 6 annas and blacksmiths from 4¾ to 6 annas daily, and similarly unskilled labourers, who usually got from 1½ to 2 annas, found that they could command 2 to 2½ annas as their daily wage†. The construction of the Mughalsarai Gaya line created a special temporary demand for labour as a large scale.

> "Generally speaking, however, skilled labour commands a somewhat higher value in towns than it did formerly. Among masons, carpenters and blacksmiths the wage shows an upward tendency, the silversmith charges a higher rate for his workmanship, the shoemaker and the tailor have raised their tariff, and there is a similar tendency among domestic servants. The rise is small and gradual, but is observable all the same: and it appears to be due to a combination of circumstances such as the advance in the standard of comfort among natives of the better class, the increased use of machinery and the growing number of well-to do residents occupying houses of more or less architectural pretensions along the line of railway.

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1906), page 85

† Masons now (April 1964) working on the Sone Barrage construction at Indrapuri get Rs 3-8-0 to Rs 5 per day; unskilled labourers about Rs 2 a day (P. O. R. C.)

"Outside urban areas the wages of labour maintain much the same level from year to year; and in the case of unskilled labour their measure is usually the minimum amount required to afford means of subsistence. Fortunately, however, wages in the villages are usually paid wholly or partially in kind; even the village artisan receives grain for the services he renders; and the field labourer generally gets the whole of his wages—usually 3 seers a day for a man, 2½ for a woman and 1½ for a child—in one or other of the inferior grains such as millets or coarse unhusked rice. This system is particularly suited to an agricultural country like Shahabad as it has the advantage of being unaffected by any rise in the price of foodgrains. Whatever the fluctuations in the price of these in the market, the labourers wage remains the same".

Regarding the later shifts J. P. W. James has observed*:—

"The great rise in prices of recent years has naturally affected wages of labour in the towns. When the first edition of this Gazetteer was published, blacksmiths and carpenters earned four or five annas, and labourers about 2½ annas daily. At the Wages Census in 1911, it was found that wages of blacksmiths and carpenters had remained stationary, while wages of unskilled labourers and ploughmen had risen to three annas. The collector reports that the wages of blacksmiths and carpenters are now from twelve annas to one rupee, while those of unskilled labourers are from eight to nine annas. Ploughmen in the neighbourhood of the towns, and wherever they are not paid in kind, earn eight annas daily, while the rate for a ploughman who supplies plough and bullocks is two rupees.

"Outside urban areas wages are usually paid wholly or partly in kind, even the village artisan receives grain for the services which he renders, and the field labourer generally gets the whole of his wage—usually three seers for a man, 2½ for a woman and 1½ for a child—in one or other of the inferior grains such as millets or course unhusked rice. This system has the advantage of being unaffected by any rise in the price of foodgrains; whatever the fluctuations of the market may be, the labourers' wage remains the same."

The tempo of rise in the wages continued in later years. During and after the Second World War, when the prices of the essential

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), pages 100-101.

commodities had unprecedented rise, the wages were also somewhat raised In 1951 the wage of a carpenter was Rs 1-6-8 as against four or five annas in 1924.

The *Bihar Statistical Hand-Book,* 1955, published by the Directorate of Economics and Statistics has some statistics on the average daily wages paid to the agricultural labourers of Shahabad district during 1953 to 1955 Some of them are as follows*:—

——	1953	1954	1955	1956 †	1957.†
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Skilled labourers				
	Rs a p	Rs a p	Rs a p	Rs a p	Rs
1 Carpenters	1 5 8	1 4 5	1 4 2	1 4 0	1 43
2. Blacksmiths	1 5 8	1 4 5	1 4 2	1 4 0	1 43
3 Cobblers	1 5 8	1 4 5	1 4 2	1 4 0	1 35
	Field labourers.				
1 Men	1 4 8	0 14 6	0 12 8	0 12 1	1 06
2 Women	0 14 1	0 10 0	0 8 3	0 7 10	0 68
3 Children	0 11 1	0 7 8	0 7 7	0 8 10	0.68
	Other Agricultural labourers.				
1 Men	1 1 2	0 12 11	0 11 8	0 12 2	1 06
2. Women	0 11 6	0 8 3	0 7 6	0 7 10	0.68
3 Children	0 10 6	0 8 3	0 7 6	1 7 10	0 68
4 (Herdsman) men	1 2 2	1 1 10	0 12 0	0 12 0	0 75
5 Women ..	Not available			0 12 0	0 75
6 Children	Not available			0 12 0	0.75

To ascertain the current rural wages sample surveys were conducted in 1959, 1960 and 1961 and the data are available in the quarterly Bulletins of the Statistical Hand-Book for October, 1959, January, 1960 and June, 1961, Government of Bihar.

* *Bihar Statistical Hand-Book*, 1955, Table no. 214, pages 256—259.

† *Bihar Statistical Hand-Book*, 1957, Table no. 280, pages 873—877.

A statement showing the average current daily rate of agricultural wages in a selected village in Shahabad district is given below*:—

Name of jobs	Year		
	July to December, 1959	April to June, 1960	April to June 1961.
	Rs	Rs	Rs
SKILLED LABOURERS			
Carpenter	1 53	1 65	1 35
2 Blacksmith	1 53	1 65	1 35
3 Cobblers	1 53	1 65	1,35
FIELD LABOURERS			
1. Men	1 25	1 15	1 05
2 Women	1 25	1 15	1 05
3 Children	Not available	Not available	Not available.
OTHER AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS			
1 Men	1 25	1 15	1 05
2. Women	1 25	1 15	1 05
3 Children	Not available	Not available	Not available
HERDSMEN			
1. Men	1.17	Not available	Not available
2. Women	1 17	Not available	Not available
3 Children	0 75	Not available	Not available

The above tables indicate the follwing conclusions:—

The daily rate of wages of a skilled labourer (carpenters, blacksmiths and cobblers), on the whole, do not show a declining trend in 1957 in comparison with 1956 and started rising from 1959 which continued till 1960 but showed a declining trend in 1961. So far field labourers are concerned, the same conclusion may be

* SOURCE: (1) *Quarterly Bulletin of Statistics, Bihar*, October, 1959, pages 116—118.

(2) *Quarterly Bulletin of Statistics, Bihar*, June, 1960, pages 118—120.

(3) *Quarterly Bulletin of Statistics, Bihar*, June, 1961, page 94

drawn. The wage level of other agricultural labourers and the wages paid to herdsmen show a fall in 1961. Later official figures are not available. But on investigation it appears that since 1961 the level of wages has gone up more in the urban areas and somewhat less in the villages. A carpenter in the towns will charge at least Rs. 3 per day while a labourer will charge Re 1 and seventy-five Paise or Rs. 2 per day The percentage of increase is more in the case of skilled or semi-skilled person. Payment of wages in kind still continues in some villages but not the whole of it. There has been proportionate rise in the quantity of the grains given in kind as wages. More discussion on this subject has been given elsewhere.

Minimum Wages—The minimum wages for the agricultural labourers were fixed in 1954 under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 (Schedule II) This led to widespread complaint from the agricul turists on the ground that the wages fixed were very high Therefore, the Government of Bihar constituted a tripartite committee of agricultural labourers, agriculturists and the Government This committee made certain investigations, in some villages of the district regarding agricultural wages and reported in 1958 On the recommendation of this committee, the agricultural minimum wages for this district were revised in the month of October, 1958 and fixed as follows —

Agricultural operations.	Rate of the minimum wages fixed.
1. Ploughing, embanking, harrowing manuring, sowing, and other ancillary units of operations.	Two seers six chattaks of paddy or one seer eight chattacks of rice or their equivalents in other grains according to their relative prices in the nearest.
2. Harvesting	One bundle out of sixteen bundles of harvested crop.

This rate is for both the casual and attached labourers, but the attached labourers are entitled to get the produce of five *kathas* of paddy land and five *kathas* of *tanr* land in addition to the daily wage. The expression "attached worker" means a worker who is under a contract, written or verbal with his employer, while the expression "casual worker" means a worker other than an attached worker. Daily hours of work consist of 8 hours for the adults, and 6 hours for the adolescents and four hours for the children. These rates are fixed only for those workers who are paid in kinds only.

The Minimum Wages Act of 1948 is in force in the district, no doubt, but the wages according to the fixed rates are not always paid. Complaints have been received from the agricultural labourers and a few cases have been filed against the employers. The ignorance, simplicity, illiteracy and the poverty of the agricultural labourers do not enable them to complain against their employers lest they might not be thrown out of unemployment

The level of rural wages discussed so far is also applicable to the urban areas to a very great extent. A separate discussion on the level of urban wages is not needed. On the average it may be said that the wage level in the urban areas is about 25 per cent higher.

However, there are some particular professions, more or less meant only for the urban areas. For example, motor transport services are mostly concentrated in the urban areas The monthly wages of a motor driver vary from Rs 80 to Rs 100 and above, of a mechanic, Rs. 100 to Rs 130 and above, of a cleaner, Rs 20 to Rs 35 and of a conductor, Rs 50 to Rs 65 The men of the last two categories are also given food-charge at the rate of Rs. 1 50 per day in addition to their basic pay

Rice, flour and oil mills are generally found in the urban areas. The employees of the mills are generally paid monthly wages The monthly pay of a manager varies from Rs 80 to Rs 120 of a clerk Rs. 50 to Rs. 75 and of an engine driver, Rs 60 to Rs 100

A small proportion of the urban population also consists of clerks, teachers, officers, etc., employed in the Government, semi-Government or private offices and other organisations Though with the rise in the prices of the essential commodities their pay has also been considerably raised but not in proportion to the increase in the prices.

STANDARD OF LIVING.

Standard of living is directly concerned with the livelihood pattern, chances of employment, level of income, consumption preferences, level of prices and other socio-economic factors. In a country like ours it would be by far the best to look into the standard of living for the rural and urban areas separately.

Rural areas.—It may be repeated here that according to the 1961 Census, Shahabad district has an area of 4,392* square miles and a population of 32,18,017 of whom nearly 92 8 per cent resides in the rural areas and is mainly dependent on agriculture for their livelihood and only 7.2 per cent in the urban area. The rural population is spread over 4,757 villages, while the urban population, i.e., 2,31,701 inhabits the nine towns.

* *Census of India*, 1961, Volume IV, Bihar, Part II-A, General Population Tables, page 29

The cultivators may be classified into different categories according to the size of the holdings they cultivate and the income they derive from the cultivation. All the land which they cultivate may not be owned by them. The ownership of the land is not what is important but the extent of the holding and the income thereof from the economic point of view.

A sample survey of a few families in the following villages of the district was carried out by our investigators in 1963-64 and the data available from the survey have been indicated :—*

Serial no	Village	Under Police-station	Under Community Development Block	Population according to 1951 Census.
1	Akbarpur	Rohtas	Rohtas	2,765
2	Banrari	Ditto	Ditto	851
3	Adhaura	Adhaura	Adhaura	494
4	Udwantnagar	Arrah	Udwantnagar	3,426
5	Ramdihra	Rohtas	Rohtas	1,420
6	Masar	Arrah	Arrah	2,782
7	Bhagwanpur	Bhabhua	Bhagwanpur	1,811
8	Ramgarh	Ditto	Ditto	1,265

Farmers.—It was found that the upper level of the village community consists of the big cultivators whose holdings are fairly large; a large number of implements and more than a pair of bullocks would be required to carry on the agricultural operations. In the fifteen samples of the big cultivators selected, the average size of the holding per family came to about 70 acres. The lands cultivated by the farmers were owned by them. The average number of bullocks per family as found by the random sample survey came to about six. In addition to the bullocks, each family had an average of five other animals—cows and buffaloes.

It was calculated that the average size of the family came to about ten in the fifteen samples selected. Usually two full-time servants, a male and a female, were almost attached or "tied" to each family. Such servants, usually the husband and wife, stayed in the huts provided by the big cultivators in their fields. Usually the

* The villages were selected on purpose; some are large villages while others are small. Some are in the plains while some are in the Kaimur Hills. (P. C. R. C.)

servants were given further emoluments and were often indebted. They were not the old "Kamias" or tied or bonded labour type but had a sort of family attachment.

The average income of a family derived from the farm land, came to about Rs. 7,900 00 per year. Out of this amount Rs 450.00 were spent every year on clothing, about Rs 350 00 on repairs to house and implements, about Rs. 150 on communications, about Rs. 600 on social and religious customs in connection with birth, death, marriage, sacred thread ceremony, etc., about Rs 200 on medical treatment and about Rs. 200 on land revenue Thus, the total annual average expenditure on these major items came to Rs 1,900 00. The monthly expenditure on the average worked out at Rs 300 00 on cereals, pulses, milk, *ghee*, vegetable, tea, oil, spices, betel, tobacco, etc. Rs. 35 00 on fuel and lighting, Rs 45 00 on servants (excluding free meals and free lodge) and Rs. 70 00 on miscellaneous articles like toilet, *dhobi*, barber, education, entertainment, travelling, etc Hence the total monthly expenditure on the average on major items worked out to Rs 450 00 This together with the annual expenditure on major items worked out to the total expenditure of Rs 7,600 per annum leaving a net annual saving of about Rs 300. It has to be mentioned that this budget is strictly about the income and the expenditure from land There may be some educated member of the family adding to the family income working elsewhere as a teacher or a clerk or a lawyer.

This type of cultivators is small in number in the villages. Their standard of life is comparatively higher and cannot be taken to be typical of the village as a whole.

Medium Cultivators—They are the cultivators with holdings of a medium size whether owned by them entirely or partly. They may have lands between 10 to 30 acres. Out of the ten samples of medium class cultivator studied, the average size of the family holdings came to about 20 acres. Each family was found to own two or three bullocks and three other cattle.

Out of the ten random samples selected, five were in debt to the extent of an average of Rs 500 00 each. The Co-operative Society and the money lenders were the agencies for giving credit. The *mahajan's* hold is still strong and the credit provided by them being quick and without much formality is more popular. The average income of the family derived almost entirely from the farm land, came to Rs. 3,400 per annum The income earned by the women and children could not be ascertained but it was between Rs. 300 to Rs. 500 for a year Out of this about Rs. 350 00 was spent on clothing, about Rs. 300 00 on repairs to the house and implements and on hay and fodder, about Rs. 100 on communications, about Rs. 200 on social and religious customs, about Rs. 100 on medical treatment and about Rs. 100 on land revenue. Thus

the total annual average expenditure on these major items came to Rs. 1,150.00. The monthly expenditure on an average worked out at Rs. 175 on cereals, pulses, milk, *ghee*, vegetables, tea, oil, spices, betel, tobacco, etc., Rs 20 on fuel and lighting Rs 30 on servants (excluding free meals and free residence) and Rs. 30 on miscellaneous articles like cosmetics, *dhobi*, barber, worked out to Rs 255 This together with the annual expenditure on the major items worked out to a total expenditure of Rs 4,210 leaving a net annual deficit of about Rs. 810 It may be noted that the deficit is met by taking loans from the money-lenders or Co-operative Societies On an enquiry from Ram Prasad Gupta of village Akbarpur, it was ascertained that he had taken Rs 800 from the Co-operative Society during 1962-63

Landless labourers.—A landless labourer has no farms, no agriculture or milch cattle and makes his living by hiring out his labour in return for wages, paid generally not in cash but in kind It may be added that there may be some labourers, who may technically be described as land-holders because they own land, but the extent of the land they own may be so small and the income they derive from it so meagre that for all practical purposes they may be taken to be as good as landless because the main occupation which gives them a living is the hiring out of their labour for wages

The family of such a labourer is generally small consisting of about four to five persons He owns a very poor hutment which is usually in a dilapidated condition. It is generally constructed on the land of some big or medium cultivator under whom he works throughout the year Such labourers as well as their womenfolk are illiterate The latter also do hired manual work to add to the family income. The children go to the primary schools only for education.

The agricultural labourers do not possess even the basic agricultural implements required for his physical labour, e g, a spade, an axe, a pick, or a hoe, etc. He has no means of entertainment Beyond the bare minimum of religiously or traditionally essential ornaments of the married women made up of brass and in very rare cases of silver, the family has no valuables Clothing is very scanty. Food for an adult male member is provided by the cultivator if he is working as a permanent labourer at the latter's place His household equipments consist of a few pots and pans with very little money

The average annual income from all sources hardly exceeds Rs. 500 per family. It is difficult to ascertain the regular family budget of these people In most cases, their wage is in kind rather than in cash They are usually in debt. They are, however, free to sell their labour to any one and they put their hands to any odd job they find. It is recently that the landless labourers are going out of their villages to seek employment in industrial zones.

Their life varies from season to season. The busy agricultural season means more or less enough food for them, as this is mostly supplied in kind by the employer. During the non-harvesting season when agricultural employment is meagre the landless labourers have to take grains and cash, on loan which he has to return to his employer during the harvesting season by giving physical labour. Their food is imbalanced and poor consisting of cheap grains and some vegetables

Village artisans.—The village artisans used to be treated as servants of the village community. The idea is melting They form an important element in the villages. They are mainly *Barhi* (carpenter), *lohar* (blacksmith), *mochi* (cobbler), *kumbhat* (potter), *darji* (tailor) and *hajam* (barber). The families of such class are medium sized, the average number of members of the ten families of the artisans surveyed came to seven Some of these artisans are literate but their women are generally illiterate

The artisans' hutments are built better and they have a little space to carry on their trade in the house Some of them may be owning pieces of land also. Out of the ten family surveyed, four had agriculture as a part-time occupation Some of the families have cattle or bullocks

The annual average income of such artisan families was Rs. 1,100 Out of this, about Rs 150 was spent on clothing about Rs. 50 on charity and travelling, about Rs 60 on social and religious customs, about Rs 50 on medical care and about Rs. 125 on repairs to house and instruments of respective professions, interest payments, etc This expenditure comes to about Rs 435. Every month the family spends on an average Rs 655 on cereals, pulses and other food articles, Rs. 10 on fuel and lighting and Rs. 25 on miscellaneous things like education, toilet, servants and barber's charges This monthly expenditure of Rs 100 together with annual expenditure of Rs 435 on rather major items works up the total of Rs 1,635 leaving a gap of Rs. 535 It was met out of income derived from small bits of land owned by them or from pursuit of minor subsidiary occupation. Out of the ten families surveyed, five were found having an average debt of Rs. 200 per family. The village artisans, as a class, unless particularly skilled, have a bare existence and have a poor standard of life but higher than that of a landless labourer His standard is like that of a small cultivator.

Conclusion.—It is clear that except for the small minority of the big cultivators, the majority of the population lives not much above the margin of subsistence and some below that margin. The landless labourers and the petty cultivators, who have to become a wage-earner most of the time, seem to be in a precarious condition. The medium size cultivators are in a slightly better condition. Even in their case, the line of demarcation between balancing the budget and falling into a deficit is thin. The same is true of artisans. It

may be noted that except in the case of the families of big cultivators the proportion of the expenditure to the total income is very inadequate. Food alone takes up about 60 per cent or even more of the total income.

Urban area.—The proportion of the urban population in the district has been discussed elsewhere A random sample survey was made in Arrah, Buxar and Jagdishpur towns. The increase in the prices of a various articles of daily consumption including housing accommodation since the Second World War has affected the urban population very hard. The cost of living in a town is much higher than in a village. The prices are high and the demands on expenditure are more. One has to be better clothed and put up with expenditure which will not be necessary at all in the villages. It is, however, true that owing to the development communications, the prices of some essential commodities are almost at the same level in the rural and urban areas.

Housing is a very big item of expenditure In most of the towns, the number of houses has not increased in proportion to the growth of the population during the last decade. The house rents have, as a result, increased very many times. There is overcrowding and lop-sided urbanisation without much amenities. The prices of land in the urban areas have increased enormously and the student population has a heavy demand on the houses in the urban areas Housing takes away almost about 30 per cent of a man's monthly income.

Unskilled labour—The unskilled labourers include various types of labour for which usually the urban centre offers opportunities of employment. Manual labour is their means of livelihood. There is no assured and continuous employment available to this class They work in the fields of the manufacturing establishments, timber yards or put their hands to cart driving, house construction, rickshaw pulling or miscellaneous domestic work. The income ranges between Rs. 45 to Rs. 75 per month.

Any kind of property, land or house, is ruled out for these families. The size of the families is generally large. The members of the family generally live in small *kutcha* huts They occasionally shift to unoccupied lands and build their poor hutments. In construction areas they live in small cubicles made out of the stached bricks

It is very difficult to ascertain the family budget of such families The head of the family may get food in certain types of occupations like woodcutting or work in restaurants or eating houses. The women of this class generally work and may get cooked food from such families. So the expenditure on food, the most important item in the family budget of the lower income groups, becomes completely misleading Clothing is also another such item. The members of such families often wear old clothes given to them by

their masters with whom they work. The house rent also is an important item of expenditure in the family budgets. The expenditure on medicine, education and recreation is negligible. This class together with their rural counterpart, viz., landless labourers live in conditions of great poverty.

Skilled labour—The skilled labour represents the artisans such as barbers, cobblers, *dhobis*, masons, carpenters, tailors, goldsmiths, etc. The income of these classes varies widely from Rs. 90 to Rs 200 or more a month. This class is much better off than the unskilled workers. They get an almost uninterrupted employment with a few gaps in some particular seasons.

The women of these families except of low income do not seek work outside the house. The size of the family of this class is larger than that of the class of unskilled labour.

In the urban areas, rickshaw pullers, *darwans*, *chowkidars* and office peons come under the low income group with an average income of Rs. 115 or below per month. The family budget of a rickshaw-puller who comes within the low income group was studied. The family has five units consisting of one adult male, two adult females and four children aged about 4, 6, 8 and 10 years. Both the husband and the wife earn. The wife works as a part-time maid servant and gets about Rs. 25 per month. On the average the rickshaw-puller earns Rs. 3 a day The total income therefore, comes to Rs. 115 out of which the owner of the rickshaw has to be paid Rs. 30 per month. The items of the monthly expenditure on the average are found to be as follows:—

	Rs.
(1) Rickshaw-rent	30.00
(2) Rice	23 50
(3) Flour	10 00
(4) Pulse	5 00
(5) Mustard oil . .	4 50
(6) Vegetables	5 00
(7) Medicine	2 00
(8) Entertainment (mostly in visiting cinema)	5 00
(9) Clothing	10.00
(10) Spices . .	2 00
(11) Fuel	5 00
(12) Kerosene oil	2 00
(13) House rent	5.00
(14) Intoxication including tea, *biri*, *pan*, etc. ..	20.00
(15) Miscellaneous	2 00
(16) Fish or meat	3.00
	134.00

The budget shows a deficit of Rs. 17.00. The expenditure of the rickshaw-puller over cinemas, intoxications and entertainment comes to Rs 25 per month which is a big percentage of the income. Usually the rickshaw-puller gets into debt because of his love for the liquor. His employment chances are quite good. No rickshaw-puller in the urban areas goes without some earning in the course of the day.

The Clerical and the ordinary Professional Class.—The income of this class varies from Rs 150 to Rs. 500 per month. The size of the family is generally larger in this class than in the others.

The expenditure of the two families of this class having monthly income of Rs. 200 and Rs 350 is given below.

The first family of a teacher has a monthly income of Rs. 200. It consists of two adult members and five children all of whom are under 12 The average monthly expenditure is Rs 180 Hence this family has a surplus of Rs 20 per month The expenditure on housing is negligible because he lives in his own house and has to pay only holding tax. This is, however, not a typical case of a teacher's family. Most of the teachers live in rented houses and try to supplement their income by private tuitions or writing notes or examining papers. This source of income is not permanent.

The second family which has a monthly income of Rs. 350 is that of a pleader. The members consist of two adult members and three children, two above and one below 8 The monthly average expenditure is Rs. 325 In addition to his own profession he gets Rs. 500 from his landed property and Rs 600 from house rent per annum Thus on the average this family has a saving of Rs. 120 per month The expenditure on the housing is almost negligible because he lives in his paternal house and has to pay only holding tax. The break-up of the family budget is given below:—

Items.	Teacher.			Pleader.		
	Rs	a	p.	Rs.	a	p
1. Food	22	0	0	35	0	0
2. Milk and *Ghee*	12	0	0	50	0	0
3 Oil	8	0	0	12	0	0
4. Sugar	10	0	0	15	0	0
5. Vegetables, eggs and meat, etc.	17	0	0	35	0	0
6. Fuel and lighting	14	0	0	14	0	0

Items.	Teacher.	Pleader.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs a. p.
7. Toilet	12 0 0	10 0 0
8. Tea, coffee, etc. ..	6 0 0	20 0 0
9. Clothing	20 0 0	43 0 0
10. Housing	10 0 0 (owned).	14 0 0 (owned).
11 Personal Service ..	14 0 0	10 0 0
12. Medical treatment ..	10 0 0	17 0 0
13. Education to children ..	10 0 0	13 0 0
14. Amusement and Recreation	5 0 0	7 0 0
15. Conveyance and travelling .	Nil	20 0 0
16. Ceremonies and other social functions.	10 0 0	10 0 0
.	180 0 0	325 0 0

The small traders.—Although traders as a whole can be easily grouped in a class, it is difficult to draw the line between the big and the small traders. The small traders in the district are those who earn a monthly income between Rs. 350 to Rs. 400. These data were collected by personal enquiry in the towns mentioned earlier

The petty grocer at the street corner may earn Rs. 100 to Rs. 300 per month. Some of them earn much more although their shop is small.

The traders include those who deal in grocery, cloth, stationery, oil, fuel, *pan-bidi*, medical stores and optical goods, etc.

The average number of members in the family of the small trader is five or six, equivalent to about four adult units This class has the only male earning members, usually one per family, children are schooling. Thus, on the income side, no assistance is forthcoming from either women or children.

The small traders, like the itinerant vegetable-seller or the pedlar or the sweet-meat vendor has one advantage. They do not pay any sales tax or income-tax The small grocery shops make a good profit and most of them deliberately adulterate the stuff they sell.

The table below will give the family budget of expenditure of a grain merchant of Arrah town. The items of expenditure are as follows:—

No	Items of expenditure in	Rs	a.	p
1.	Food	25	0	0
2	Milk and *Ghee*	10	0	0
3.	Oil	8	0	0
4.	Sugar	8	0	0
5	Vegetables fruits, meat and fish, etc	15	0	0
6.	Fuel and lighting	8	0	0
7.	Cosmetics	6	0	0
8.	Tea, coffee and *pan-bidi*, etc.	8	0	0
9.	Clothing	15	0	0
10.	Housing (owned)	10	0	0
11.	Personal Services	10	0	0
12.	Medical treatment	10	0	0
13.	Education to children	15	0	0
14.	Amusement and Recreation	5	0	0
15.	Conveyance and Travelling	10	0	0
16.	Social functions	10	0	0
17.	Miscellaneous	20	0	0
		198	0	0

The head of the family with an average income of Rs. 180 per month is a grain (*kirana*) merchant of Arrah town. He has invested only Rs. 1,000 in his shop. The family consists of husband, wife and four children one above and three below 10 years. The family has a house. He gets an income of Rs. 15 per month from the rented portion. The grain merchant also indulges in a little of money lending as a subsidiary income. This class is usually of the type that make savings and plough it back in the business. These merchants after doing business for ten years usually build their own houses worth a few thousands of rupees. Their standard of living, however, is not of a high standard.

The well-to-do and the rich.—Under this category come the highly paid officers and big businessmen and men at the top of their

professions. No upper limit can be fixed for such families but a lower limit of Rs. 500 a month may be assumed to be appropriate in the district. The family budget of a highly placed personnel in the educational institution in Arrah town was studied. His monthly income is near about Rs. 1,000. His family consists of 10 units excluding one adult son who is reading in the Ranchi Medical College, Ranchi.

The items of his monthly expenditure are as follows:--

Items.	Prices (in rupees).
1. Rice	60
2. Wheat	40
3. Pulse	15
4. Spices	10
5. Oil	20
6 *Ghee* and milk	55
7. Fish and meat	15
8. Vegetables	60
9. Tea and coffee	20
10. Sugar	20
11. Education to children	150
12. Medicine	15
13. Clothing	60
14. House rent	Free.
15. Festivals	25
16. *Pan, bidi* and cigarette	10
17. *Dhobi* and barber	15
18 Salary of the servant, driver and tutor	60
19. Miscellaneous	50
20. Life Insurance premium	75
21. Provident Fund	75
22. Entertainment to guests	25
TOTAL	875

The net monthly saving comes to Rs. 125 but the real saving amounts to Rs. 275 including the deposit of Rs. 75 in the provident fund and Rs. 75 in the Life Insurance Corporation.

The urban area presents a picture of all the socially significant sections of the people from the unskilled labourer to the well-to-do and the rich. Though it would be hazardous to generalise on the basis of the data collected, a general trend may be indicated. The increased earning due to implementation of various Government schemes may increase the demand for consumer goods of low consumption groups It may be added that with the provision of the increasing facilities in a Welfare State for the necessities of life as education, sanitation, medical help and housing, even families of the low income group may be expected to have a slightly better standard of living but at more expenses to the meagre earning. At the time of the investigation (April, 1964) the prices of the essential commodities have been going up The people have to buy even the essential commodities in the sellers' market. Taxes have gone up and the economic incidence of every group is in a confused state. Unless the price-line is held and there is more stabilisation of the market, the consumers are very much hard hit If prices go on spiralling as they are now (April, 1964) the economy of the district is bound to be affected very considerably.

Level of Employment

It has been mentioned that according to 1951 Census about 83 per cent of the total population are engaged in agriculture. This is, however, a broad statement and it does not mean that 83 per cent of the total population are sufficiently employed in agriculture Agriculture does not give a continuous employment as a factory does to the factory hands Agriculture still depends on rainfall and various other factors The pressure of employment in agriculture is seasonal The vast community of agricultural labourers has to remain idle for quite a few months Even the land-owning farmer is not continuously engaged in his field. There is, therefore, a back log of unemployment among the 83 per cent of the population that have the main occupation of agriculture Quite a large percentage of such people are obliged to find other employment although they depend on agriculture as their main occupations.

There has been no proper census of the employable persons and also what percentage is sufficiently employed for leading a life just above the margin with his family members In the absence of precise details we have to fall back on the tables given in the District Census Hand-Book of Shahabad, 1951, which gives the figures relating to persons deriving their livelihood from agriculture to non-agricultural population.

The number of the persons engaged in different non-agricultural pursuits according to 1951 Census is given*:—

	Persons	Males	Females.
All industries and services	1,16,755	93,173	23,582
(1) Primary Industries not elsewhere specified.	3,538	2,807	731
(2) Mining and Quarrying ..	47	47	...
(3) Processing and manufacture of food-stuffs, textiles, leather and products thereof.	11,847	9,338	2,509
(4) Processing and manufacture of metals, chemicals and products thereof.	3,219	2,942	277
(5) Processing and manufacture not elsewhere specified.	9,390	7,058	2,332
(6) Construction and utilities ..	2,896	2,358	538
(7) Commerce .	32,695	25,077	7,618
(8) Transport, Storage and Communication.	7,601	6,766	835
(9) Health, Education and Public Administration	10,382	8,621	1,761
(10) Services not elsewhere specified ..	35,140	28,159	6,981

Under the occupational head "Primary Industries", the number of persons engaged in stock raising was 1,430 males and 241 females, rearing of small animals and insects, 97 males and 75 females, plantation industries, 12 males and 23 females forestry and wood-cutting, 27 males and 2 females, fishing 30 males and 25 females The figures for the primary industries appear to be an under estimate. Hundreds are engaged in them as their sole occupation, particularly in "forestry and wood-cutting" and fishing"

The break-up statistics of Mining and Quarrying as stated above do not appear to be correct. More people are definitely engaged in mining and quarrying. Shahabad is employing thousands of persons in mining and quarrying

However, some of the above figures could be accepted as approximately accurate The statistics indicate that the employment in services not elsewhere specified forms the bulk of the employment in non-agricultural sector in Shahabad district, that it comes to 30.4 per cent of the total non-agricultural employment. Trade and commerce accounted for 28.2 per cent and the processing and manufacture accounted for 10.3 per cent of the total non-agricultural employment.

* *District Census Hand-Book, Shahabad* (1954), pages 35—52

A reference may be made as to the changes that are expected in 1961 Census. The expansion of the National Extension Service Blocks and Community Development Project, more of mining and quarrying, starting of more small-scale industries, development of the roadways and more utilisation of the forest resources should raise the figures of persons engaged in some of the non-agricultural occupations. Trade and commerce particularly in forest products and livestock are engaging more attention and give occupation to more people. The execution of the Sone Barrage Project Scheme at Indrapuri located at about five miles from Dehri also provides employment to about 8,000 persons not only to the people of this district but also to a large number of technical and non-technical hands of other districts.

The Employment Exchange Department of Shahabad district has prepared a statement showing the number of employees in industry chances between the 30th September, 1963 and the 31st December, 1963. The figures are as follows –

Description of the Industry group	No of employees as on—		Rise and fall.
	30th September 1963	31st December 1963	
1 Field Products and Plantation, Forestry and logging, livestock and hunting	1,556	1,564	+8
2 Mining and Quarrying	3,148	3,319	+171
3 Processing and manufacture, of foodstuff, textiles, etc., and products thereof	9,934	11,349	+1,415
4 Construction	5,110	7,205	+2,095
5 Trade and Commerce	647	655	+8
6 Transport, Storage and Communications.	2,438	2,554	+116
7 Health, Education and Public administration	24,559	24,737	+178
8 Electricity, Gas supply and sanitary services and water.	3,120	3,187	+59
GRAND TOTAL	50,520	54,570	+4,050

From the above table it appears that the level of employment in the district has increased by 4,050 persons (8 per cent) during the quarter ending December, 1963. It clearly indicates that the development of the district is giving more chances for employment.

Secondly taking the 31st March, 1961 as the base, the index of employment, excluding the construction establishment, of the private sector, had moved from 112 12 on the 30th September, 1963 to 113 82 on the 31st December, 1963.

The table below supplied by the District Employment Exchange Office, Arrah, will give the details of the index of employment. It may be noted that the figures given below includes of both the Employment Exchange Offices located at Arrah and Dehri:—

Enquiry relating to.	Index of employment— For public sector.	Index of employment— For private sector.	Total.
31-3-1961	100.00	100.00	100.00
30-6-1961	99.75	93.46	97.01
30-9-1961	100.14	94.36	97.50
31-12-1961	108.01	101.18	104.97
31-3-1962	112.75	103.25	108.52
30-6-1962	113.42	96.92	106.11
30-9-1962	118.90	96.25	108.39
31-12-1962	121.60	103.53	113.39
31-3-1963	121.01	97.38	110.49
30-6-1963	117.69	96.70	108.27
30-9-1963	112.12	91.91	108.96
31-12-1963	113.82	99.88	113.36

EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE.

As mentioned earlier we have to gather the incidence of unemployment from different sources. The registration figures of the unemployed in the two Employment Exchanges at Arrah and Dehri give us some help. The limitation of the Employment Exchanges figures are well known. The registration at an Employment Exchange is not compulsory for the unemployed and it is possible that some of the persons that have registered themselves with the Employment Exchanges may be employed and they are looking for better jobs. They may be unemployed while registering and though they got jobs later on they have not removed their names. Any persons who does not renew his registration within two months, his name is eliminated, from the list. It may be noted that the statistics of Employment Exchanges are generally considered to be indicative of urban unemployment mainly confined to the non-argicultural sector.

The table below supplied by the District Employment Exchange office, Arrah, will show the total number of persons registered, vacancies notified and the persons placed in employment from 1956 to 1963:—

Year.	Total no of persons registered during the year	Total no of vacancies notified	Total no. of persons placed in employment.
1956	6,637	1,431	937
1957	6,741	1,502	1,041
1958	6,752	1,617	1,210
1959	7,002	2,142	1,430
1960	10,311	2,210	1,631
1961	10,809	2,431	1,710
1962	13,047	4,024	1,842
1963	13,850	3,842	2,019

The above figures include the figures of both the offices at Arrah and Dehri. The table shows that the number of persons registered fluctuates. It will be seen that for the last four years the number has gone up considerably The probable reason is the development of the district and that has attracted more men to register themselves It is understood that the number of persons passing secondary or higher secondary and university examinations and thereafter seeking jobs has also been increasing every year On an enquiry from the Employment Exchange Officers of Dehri and Arrah, it was ascertained that within the jurisdiction of Arrah Employment Exchange, people register themselves generally for clerical jobs whereas in Dehri people generally register themselves for technical and unskilled jobs.

The incidence of the number of registrations for domestic services is negligible because of lack of good remuneration. A man would like to be a rickshaw-puller and will earn Rs 100 on the average per month than be a domestic servant for Rs 30 per month and food.

As regards statutory obligation it may be noted that in 1959 the Parliament passed a legislation, namely, the Employment Exchange (Compulsory Notification of Vacancies) Act which was published in the *India Gazette*, dated 3rd September 1959 It made obligatory on both the private and public sectors to notify their vacancies through the Employment Exchange But in the case of private sectors there are provisions under which they are not bound to notify their all vacancies. On the private sector the employers employing more than 25 persons are obliged to notify the vacancies but there is very little insistence on the fulfilment of this obligation This Act has been enforced in Shahabad district from June, 1960 In the public sector it is obligatory for the State Government to notify the vacancies But it has been found that the obligation is seldom properly discharged.

The District Employment Exchange, Arrah, supplied the following figures of both Arrah and Dehri Employment Exchanges with regard to the persons employed in the public sector from 30th September 1960 to 31st December, 1963:—

Year.				Total number of persons employed in the public sector.
31-3-1960	..	..	..	16,809
30-6-1960	..	..	..	16,675
30-9-1960	..	..	..	15,390
31-12-1960	..	..	..	15,697
31-3-1961	..	..	..	18,034
30-6-1961	..	..	..	17,993

Year	Total number of persons employed in the public sector
30-9-1961	25,037
31-12-1961	25,012
31-3-1962	26,717
30-6-1962	27,861
30-9-1962	27,772
31-12-1962	28,585
31-3-1963	28,463
30-6-1963	30,116
30-9-1963	30,813
31-12-1963	31,390

The persons employed in the public sector include the employees of Central Government, Quasi-Central Government, State Government and Local Bodies.

The statistics quoted show that the figures have been fluctuating. The reasons are—

(i) Recruitment and retrenchment of workers engaged in the construction of Sone Barrage at Indrapuri and the construction of Sone Bridge.

(ii) Recruitment and retrenchment of the seasonal workers under Dalmianagar Sugar Factory and Anti-malaria Department, etc.

(iii) Recruitment and retrenchment in the various industries at Dehri and elsewhere. Seasonal employment is offered at the quarries.

A study of the figures supplied by the two Employment Exchanges at Arrah and Dehri gives the impression that there is a very sizeable unemployed population within the district and the Exchanges have not been able to do much in liquidating unemployment. From 1960 onwards the number of persons registering themselves has gone up very considerably in spite of the fact that a very small percentage is being placed in employment. In 1960, 10,311 persons had registered themselves while only 1,631 persons were placed in employment. In 1961 although 10,809 persons had registered themselves, only 1,710 persons had received employment. In 1962 the number of persons registering themselves was 11,001 as against 1,842 persons placed in employment. The position has remained almost the same in 1963. In 1963 although 11,304 persons had registered themselves, only 2,019 persons had been placed. It is also significant that the total number of vacancies is

very much smaller than the number of registration. In 1963 the total number of vacancies notified was only 3,019. The variation in the figures of the total number of vacancies notified and the total number of persons placed in employment also shows that the persons placed in employment are not confined to only those who had registered themselves.

There is another significant feature which needs mention. There is a great dearth of technical people that had registered themselves and a very large number of men indicated their preference for clerical jobs or for some type of soft jobs. For example there are very few stenographers or skilled electricians or semi-skilled welders who register themselves while a large number of persons indicate that they would like to be clerks and this population is drawn from persons who are from non-matriculates to those who are graduates or have passed their M.A degree. It is also a common complaint with the private sector that the right type of men for their jobs seldom come from the Employment Exchanges

Level of Employment as in the Unemployment Committee's Report.

In 1954 the Bihar Unemployment Committee had made some investigation in Shahabad district. The table below will show the number of families surveyed, number of families affected, sample population, persons between 16 to 60 years, totally unemployed persons and partially employed persons* in Arrah town.—

Name of city or town	Number of families surveyed.	Number of families affected.	Sample population.		
			Males.	Females	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Arrah	300	176	1,248	1,256	2,504

Persons between 16 to 60.			Wholly unemployed persons.		
Males.	Females	Total.	Males.	Females	Total.
7	8	9	10	11	12
649	660	1,039	149	17	166

Partially unemployed persons			Total affected persons		
Males	Females	Total.	Males	Females	Total
13	14	15	16	17	18
80	6	86	229	23	252

* Source.—*Draft Report of the Bihar Unemployment Committee*, Vol I, 1959, pages 303-304

The table below will show the estimated population and persons affected by unemployment as on the 1st May 1954 for Shahabad district*:—

Town	Estimated number of families.	Estimated number of affected families.	Raising factor.	Estimated population of families		
				Males.	Females	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Arrah	8,166	4,791	27.22	33,971	34,188	68,159

Estimated population in 16 to 60 age-group.			Estimated unemployed persons.			Estimated partially employed persons.		
Males.	Females.	Total.	Males	Females.	Total.	Males	Females	Total.
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17,666	17,965	35,631	4,056	463	4,579	2,178	163	2,341

Number of illiterate persons, i.e., totally unemployed persons		
Males.	Females.	Total.
17	18	19
6,234	626	6,860

TABLE 3.*

Town.	No. of families surveyed.	No. of affected families	Family size.	Percentage of the employable males to the male population.	Percentage of the employable families to the female population.	Percentage of adult group (males and females) to the total population.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Arrah ..	300	176	8.35	52.00	52.54	52.27

* SOURCE.—*Draft Report of the Bihar Unemployment Committee*, Vol. I, 1959, pages 307—309

† SOURCE.—*Draft Report of the Bihar Unemployment Committee*, Vol. I, 1954, page 313

A sample survey of Arrah town was made of 300 families and showed that the average family size was 8.35 persons and the percentage of the employable males to the male population was 52.00 and the percentage of the employable females to the female population was 52.54. The percentage of the adult group, male and female, to the total population was 52.27 This picture must be, more or less, the same now as well. Arrah town has not been industrialised.

In the rural unemployment survey the number of the sampled villages in Shahabad district was 24 while the number of villages covered was 21. Information was collected relating to the general economy of the villages, its location, communication, population, classification of land, productive assets, cottage industries, house crafts, production and acreage under each crop, sale and purchase of foodgrains, etc, consumption and other cash expenditure, wage rates, educated unemployed, educational institutions of the village, etc. Details about each individual member of the family were also collected Data were also collected for the compilation of the Employment Schedules in which the man-days offered by each family as a whole in the village and the extent of its utilisation every week were collected in weekly schedules In Shahabad district 1,986 rural families were covered and the average number of families per village was 94 6 The concept of the family was different from that of the household adopted in the Census of 1951 The group of persons having a common kitchen was considered to constitute a family irrespective of the relationship among the members In this way a *Math* or a *Mahanth* was treated as a family.

For the purpose of the collection of these data the entire area of the State had been divided into four zones according to the natural conditions and Shahabad fell in the South Bihar Zone comprising of the portion of Shahabad and Gaya districts north of the Grand Trunk Road, Patna district, Monghyr district (south of the Ganga) excluding Jamui subdivision and Bhagalpur district (south of the Ganga) excluding Banka subdivision Each zone was divided into sub-zones because somewhat different types of economy were found within each zone

In Shahabad district the number of the sampled villages from where the village returns were received were 17 and the number of adult population in these villages was found to be 6,964 The number of the educated unemployed in those villages were as follows --

Matriculates—24; Intermediate--8, Graduate--3 and Post Graduate—1 *

The survey suggested that even the matriculates of the village are apathetic to remain in the village and seek employment in the

*Source —*Draft Report of the Bihar Unemployment Committee*, page 887.

towns. On the average not even two unemployed Matriculates were found in the villages. The number of the unemployed intermediates, Graduates and Post-Graduates living in the villages can be ignored

The Urban-unemployed Survey of Bihar in 1954 had enumerated Arrah, the district headquarters as a class II town (between 50,000 to 1,00,000 population) This survey reveals that educated unemployment in the towns of Bihar was acute, out of 4,716 families surveyed in all the 15 towns 21 2 per cent were in the educated group. The survey further indicated that while 17 per cent of the unemployed and 4 35 per cent of the partially employed were matriculates, the number of persons with higher qualification among the partially employed was less than 1 per cent for each category But of those wholly unemployed 6.79 per cent were Intermediates, 5 01 per cent Graduates and 0 75 per cent were Post-Graduates The persons holding degree in commerce and law accounted for 2 per cent of the unemployed *

Another significant feature was disclosed by the survey Two families with Intermediate and two with Graduates and some others with Engineering and legal qualification are in the lowest group earning Rs. 50 00 or less per family per month From this one may conclude that unless the economy as a whole expands and purchasing power and productivity increase, the imparting of the technical and vocational education would not by itself solve the problem of employment. There is a very little possibility of a self-generating economy in the district with agriculture of rather primitive type as the main occupation.

This incidence of high unemployment of the persons in the lowest income group brings out the need of stimulating such occupational activities which may not yield a high income but will mean some relief and the utilisation of labour going to waste From the point of view of the welfare as well as social contentment, this category of unemployment deserves serious consideration. For the rural areas, the activities of the *Khadi* and *Gramodyog* organisation have been receiving some attention. The vast unemployed population could also emigrate to the industrial areas where the employment chances are better Personal investigation at Amjhor, Banjari and Pipradih shows that a good percentage of the labour population has come from other districts and other States The Adivasis of Chotanagpur migrate to the industrial zones even for short terms when the harvesting is over and before sowing starts. There is no reason why the surplus labour population should seek employments elsewhere The report also shows that the unemployed persons in the urban areas mostly want jobs of a particular type They would not like to be a domestic servant or a manual labourer if uneducated or illiterate

* SOURCE—*Draft of the Bihar Unemployment Committee*, Vol. I, 1959, pages 291-292.

but would like to be a peon or a Chaukidar in the office. The dearth of domestic servants has, however, given employment to the wandering vegetable seller, sweet-meat vendor or the hoteliers of cheaper hotel variety If educated then almost everyone from a matriculate to the M A. will seek clerical jobs or some kind of white-collared employment. There is a dearth of semi-skilled or skilled technicians and yet the matriculates or non-matriculates will not very willingly take to trade It is rather difficult to get a mechanic for sanitary fittings, a welder or an electric mistry The position is now somewhat changing and the polytechnic schools have started refusing admissions. Definitely there is a great scope for opening more and more technical schools. An Industrial Training Institute is already functioning at Dehri-on-Sone and another Industrial Training Institute is going to be started at Buxar during the Third Five-Year Plan There is also a proposal for starting a similar institute at Arrah during the Fourth Five-Year Plan. A personal opinion may be hazarded that it is a mistake to throw the University open to every student who can get an admission in a college After the matriculation standard there should be a vigorous screening and rules and those with special aptitudes and background for further studies should be allowed to join the colleges. Others should join the technical schools or get into some other employment. If this is done there will be a lesser incidence of unemployment among the matriculates and above.

Miscellaneous Occupations.

Agriculture, trade, commerce, industry, communications and transport provide the occupation for the bulk of the population in the district. A small percentage of the population is engaged in miscellaneous occupations, namely, public administration, learned professions and domestic services, etc. The middle classes and the lower middle classes follow the miscellaneous occupations

It has to be mentioned that the present picture of the miscellaneous occupations could be had from the *District Census Hand-Book of Shahabad* based on 1951 figures

The District Census Hand-Book for 1961 Census has not yet been published. The detailed figures are not available so far. Owing to the expansion and urbanisation in the district in the Third Five-Year Plan there has been a considerable accretion to the population following the miscellaneous occupations In some cases the reported figures for 1951 Census Hand-Book appear to be rather an under-estimate.

Public Administration.

The District Census Hand-Book for 1951 has given the statistics for Public Administration under "Health, Education and Public Administration".

The figures are as follows*:—

	Males.	Females	Total.
1. Health Education and Public Administration	8,621	1,761	10,382
2 Police (other than village watchmen)	1,739	Nil	1,739
3 Village Officers and servants including village watchmen	367	Nil	367
4. Employees of State Government . ..	2,089	947	3,036
5 Employees of Union Government ..	811	Nil	811
6. Employees of Municipalities and Local Bodies	458	252	710

LEARNED PROFESSIONS.

Persons under this category form the backbone of the society. They are lawyers, educationists, engineers, doctors, skilled professionals, writers, journalists, etc., either in public or private sector.

The figures of the teachers inclusive of the different categories according to 1951 District Census Hand-Book are given below†:—

Males.	Females.	Total.
2,244	214	2,458

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES AND RESEARCH.

These figures are to be taken with reference to the figures given in the text as "Education and Culture". As mentioned in the text on "Education and Culture", there were 8,075 teachers (7,250 males and 825 females) employed in the schools and colleges. The above figures include the teachers of primary, middle, secondary and professional schools in the district.

So far as doctors are concerned, the District Census Hand-Book of 1951 mentions 1,261‡ persons (913 males and 348 females) engaged in medical and health services of the district. It is obvious that the figure is an under-estimate if it should include not only the qualified doctors, nurses, compounders and midwives but also the unqualified quacks, homoeopaths, *kavirajs* and *hakims*, etc. The difficulty is the want of statutory obligations for barring the unregistered doctors and quacks from practising. The figures in the District Census Hand-Book of 1951 must have undergone a large addition by now. The text on "Medical and Public Health Services" may also be looked into.

The figures of the persons following the legal profession have not been separately given in 1951 District Census Hand-Book but has

* *District Census Hand-Book, Shahabad*, 1951, pages 50—52.

† *Ibid*, page 51.

‡ *Ibid*, page 50.

been clubbed with businessmen and said to be 728 persons. This does not give any indication as to the actual number of persons following the legal profession*. This is unfortunate as lawyers and businessmen cannot be clubbed together from profession point of view.

An investigation was made from the District Judge, Arrah and it was gathered that there were 390 legal practitioners of whom 222 were advocates in the district. This figure does not include the clerks, stamp vendors, deed writers or various other people who make a living out of matters in connection with the legal professions.

Arts, letters and journalism claim a very small number. According to the 1951 Census there were only 339, i.e., 297 males and 42 females. Some of the journalists work on part-time basis. As a matter of fact it is doubtful if the part-time professionals in this branch have not been included as full-time workers.

Religion claims a small number of exclusive adherants such as Hindu priests, Muslim divines and Christian missionaries. Their number is not separately available. Hindu priests or Muslim divines follow other occupations as well. In 1951 Census Hand-Book 2,561 males and 249 females were reported to be engaged in religious, charitable and welfare services† This figure appears to be an overestimate but no investigation was possible The 1961 Census figures are not available.

Domestic and Personal Services.

The figures of persons engaged in domestic and personal services according to 1951 Census are as follows‡:—

	Males	Females.	Total.
1. Services otherwise unclassified	10,500	2,644	13,144
2. Domestic services	7,742	1,722	9,464
3. Barbers and beauty shops	3,210	621	3,831
4. Laundries and laundry services	2,525	1,288	3,813
5. Hotels, restaurants, eating hotels	229	87	316
6. Recreation services	367	278	645

The number in 1964 under each of the categories must be more.

The persons engaged in domestic services include cook, household servants, water-carriers, etc. The lot of domestic servants has definitely improved although there is dearth for them. They are

*District Census Hand-Book, Shahabad, 1951, page 54.

† District Census Hand-Book, Shahabad, 1951, published in 1954, page 54.

‡ Ibid, pages 52—54.

profited by the expansion of other avenues of occupation and get a better pay and fooding. Many are engaged in part-time job in several families and make out a good living. Many of the previous domestic servants have adopted other occupations as rickshaw-pulling, working in hotels, office peons, Chowkidars, etc. There is a dearth of domestic servants and this has been fully exploited for getting higher wages, lesser work and obligations. There is a constant interchange of occupations among this class of men. It is also possible that the same man is working as barber and a domestic servant or a peon in the office. The same man may be a cook and a peon or a newspaper vendor and a *khunchawolla* selling snacks. There is a craze now for the domestic servants to get into the offices as class IV employees. The son of cook or a *mali* (gardener) now seldom follows his father's profession He will read a bit and try to be a peon or a chaukidar or a clerk

In the urban areas the average daily earning of a barber is not less than Rs. 3 to Rs. 4. His charges vary. The roadside barber will charge from 10 paise to 12 paise for a shave and 25 paise for a hair-cut. There is no fixed charge for the female barber who visit houses and paint the nails of the ladies and do other work.

Laundries of the urban areas are better equipped and the owners of such shops have also to employ hired labourers due to the increase in the volume of business. Washing charges for 100 pieces in the rural areas vary from Rs. 10 to Rs. 15 and in urban areas from Rs. 12 to Rs. 20, the time taken for the service ranging from one week to 10 days or even more.

The district does not have any good hotel where a comfortable board and lodge are provided. Mostly there are cheap restaurants and eating houses. These hotels and restaurants are generally situated near the court compounds, cinemas and in the thick of the *bazars*. The standard is rather poor and the amenities provided are not of a high class.

The tailoring professions has not been separately enumerated Many independent tailors with their sewing machine are found in the district. In many cloth shops a tailor with a sewing machine is found in a corner for carrying on his work No tailor earns anything less than Rs 90 a month

There are also Central and State Government Departments stationed within the Shahabad district and it is not known if the personnel in the Central and State Government Departments have been categorised properly Many of them are technical men, administrators, doctors and engineers, etc. The services personnel have not always got their own organisations to discuss matters of their common interest. If there were any such organisations it

could have been easier to collect the figures. Some of the doctors are the members of the Shahabad Branch of the Indian Medical Association. The laywers have their own Bar Association. But the teachers, the subordinates in Government service have not strong and well represented organisations and it is difficult to get definite figures. The persons engaged in the various Local Self-Government bodies have not got their figures correctly enumerated

It is unfortunate that although the persons who could be grouped under miscellaneous occupations play a very important role in the society and offer leadership, their proper statistics are not available. The 1951 District Census Hand-Book figures are not satisfactory although they give some indication The 1961 Census figures will definitely show a higher number in each of the categories.

CHAPTER IX.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

For purposes of General Administration the district is divided into four subdivisions, viz., Arrah Sadar, Buxar, Sasaram and Bhabua subdivisions.

J. F. W. James in his *Shahabad Gazetteer* mentions—

"For general administration, the district is divided into four subdivisions, under the Magistrate-Collector, containing the following revenue divisions and police-stations:—

Subdivision.	Thana.	Police station.
Sadar (917 square miles)	Arrah	(1) Arrah, (2) Arrah Muffasil, and (3) Sandesh.
	Shahpur	(1) Shahpur, (2) Jagdishpur, (3) Piro, and (4) Sahar
Buxar (659 square miles)	Buxar	(1) Buxar, and (2) Rajpur.
	Dumraon	(1) Dumraon, (2) Nawanagar, and (3) Barhampur.
Sasaram (1,481 square miles)	Bikramganj	Bikramganj.
	Karghar	(1) Karghar, and (2) Nokha.
	Sasaram	Sasaram.
	Dehri	(1) Dehri, (2) Nasriganj, (3) Rohtas, and (4) Chenari.
	Mohania	(1) Mohania, (2) Ramgarh, (3) Durgauti (South), and (4) Kudra.
Bhabua (1,296 square miles)	Bhabua	(1) Bhabua, (2) Chainpur, (3) Adhoura, and (4) Chand."*

The district has had many changes since. There are now 6,096 villages according to 1961 Census. The Sadar, Bhabua, Sasaram and Buxar subdivisions have an area of 805,83, 1,329.71, 1,520.57 and 624.93 square miles respectively. There are forty-one police-stations in the district. The details of the different subdivisions and police-stations now have been mentioned in the Chapter "Law, Order and Justice".

The District Magistrate with his headquarters at Arrah is at the apex of the administrative structure, the base of which is being more and more broadened after the State has become a Welfare State since Independence. Development programmes for the rural

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), p. 131.

areas have been taken up and Community Development Blocks have been opened. Accent has been put on the village panchayats. The District Magistrate has been given a large number of officers to help him in the administration of the district. For revenue purposes, he has an Additional Collector and for development work, he has a District Development Officer. There are four Land Reforms Deputy Collectors posted at each of the four subdivisions. At the subdivisional headquarters, there is a Subdivisional Magistrate in charge of Law and Order as well as revenue and development matters. The Subdivisional Officers are under the administrative control of the District Magistrate. For law and order the district has a Superintendent of Police and one Additional Superintendent of Police with headquarters at Arrah and Dehri-on-Sone respectively. The Superintendent of Police at Arrah is assisted by two Deputy Superintendents of Police at Arrah The Additional Superintendent of Police is assisted by one Deputy Superintendent posted at Sasaram. Details of the police administration will be found in the text on "Law, Order and Justice".

The District Magistrate is responsible for the execution of the planning schemes besides the maintenance of law and order. He is the head of the District Planning Committee He has to co-ordinate the functions of all the departments of the Government that are working on development programmes. The success or failure of the Five-Year Plans will be a responsibility of the District Magistrate.

The District Magistrate for carrying on general administration has the following gazetted officers under him on the 31st December, 1963:—

(1) Additional Collector	1
(2) District Development Officer	1
(3) Senior Deputy Collector	1
(4) Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors ..	3
(5) Sub-Deputy Collectors	2
(6) District Welfare Officer	1
(7) District Panchayat Officer	1
(8) District Public Relations Officer	1
(9) Land Acquisition Officer	1
(10) District Statistical Officer	1
(11) Treasury Officer	1
(12) P A to the District Magistrate	1

(13)	Block Development Officers-*cum*-Anchal Adhikaris.	41

The Sadar subdivision has the following officers:—

(1)	Subdivisional Officer	1
(2)	Deputy Collector incharge Land Reforms and Development.	1
(3)	Deputy Collector and Deputy Magistrate ..	1
(4)	Sub-Deputy Collector	1
(5)	Block Development Officers-*cum*-Anchal . Adhikaris.	12

The Bhabua subdivision has the following officers:—

(1)	Subdivisional Officer	1
(2)	Deputy Collector incharge Land Reforms and Development.	1
(3)	Sub-Deputy Collector	1
(4)	Block Development Officers-*cum*-Anchal Adhikaris.	9

The Sasaram subdivision has the following officers —

(1)	Subdivisional Officer	1
(2)	Deputy Collector incharge Land Reforms and Development.	1
(3)	Deputy Collector and Deputy Magistrate ..	1
(4)	Sub-Deputy Collector	1
(5)	Block Development Officers-*cum*-Anchal Adhikaris.	13

The Buxar subdivision has the following officers:—

(1)	Subdivisional Officer	1
(2)	Deputy Collector incharge Land Reforms and Development.	1
(3)	Deputy Collector and Deputy Magistrate ..	1
(4)	Sub-Deputy Collector	1
(5)	Block Development Officers-*cum*-Anchal Adhikaris.	7

District Magistrate's Office.

The old set up of the District Magistrate's Office in all the districts followed a pattern well suited to that of a component unit of a Police State. Since the advent of Independence in the country in 1947 there have been very considerable changes in the character of the State and it is now a Welfare State. The development work, as mentioned before, has been taken up as a matter of State policy. Landlordism has been abolished by law and now there is no intermediary link between the State and the cultivators. Various welfare measures for social uplift have been taken up. The set up of the Collectorate, the office of the District Officer, has been reorganised mainly on the lines of a report of Sri B D. Pande, a senior I.C.S. officer, who was especially deputed to study the problems of the reorganisation of the districts and subdivisional offices This scheme was implemented by the Government in July, 1958 and the set up of the district offices has been completely changed to suit the new conditions. The main Collectorate office is now divided into seven principal sections as follows:—

(1) Confidential.

(2) General Office.

(3) Revenue Office.

(4) Development Office

(5) Establishment Office.

(6) Legal Section Office.

(7) Treasury and Accounts.

The following is the distribution of subjects:—

Section I—Confidential.

Section II—General—(1) Law and Order, (2) Agrarian Disputes, (3) Maintenance of Public Order Act, (4) Collective Fines, (5) Police and Homeguards, (6) Requisitioning and derequisitioning of property, (7) Allotment of houses, (8) Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board, (9) Elections, (10) Census, (11) Cinemas and dramatic performances, (12) Licenses (Arms, Explosives, etc), (13) Press, including examination of newspaper cuttings, (14) Public Relations, (15) Relief and Rehabilitation of displaced persons from Pakistan, (16) Evacuee Property Act. (17) Passports and Visas, (18) Political Sufferers, (19) Domicile Certificate (20) Jails, (21, Supply and Price Control, (22) Anti-Corruption, (23) Assembly, Council and

Parliament questions, (24) Local Bodies, i.e., Municipalities, District Boards, Notified Area Committee and other Union Committees, (25) Library, (26) Forms and Stationery, (27) Labour, including Minimum Wages Act, Workmen's Compensation Act, etc.

Section III—Revenue.—(1) Land Reforms, (2) Tenancy Act, (3) Rent and Cess, (4) *Khas Mahal,* (5) Rent Commutation, (6) Chaukidari, (7) Settlement, (8) *Balabandi,* (9) *Malkhana,* (10) Registration, (11) *Charkhana,* (12) Embankment, (13) Excise and Opium, (14) Kanungo Establishment, (15) Taxation Measures, (16) Record Room, (17) Copying Department, (18) Certificate, (19) Nazarat, (20) Circuit House, (21) Land Acquisition, (22) Ferries, (23) Mining, (24) Treasure Trove, (25) Stamps, (26) Crop and Weather Reports, (27) Flood and Scarcity

Section IV—Development.—(1) Five-Year Plan and Co-ordination, (2) District Development Office, (3) District Planning Committee, (4) District Education Committee, (5) Community Project and National Extension Service, (6) Local Development Works Programme, (7) Irrigation (major, medium and minor), (8) Reclamation of Waste Land, (9) Welfare of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes, (10) Gram Panchayats, (11) Vested Zamindari improvement works, (12) Welfare activities of other departments including Grow More Food, (13) Statistics, (14) Forests, (15) Loans including Agriculturists' Loans, Land Improvement Loans, Loans under the State Aid to Industries Act, etc. , (16) National Savings Scheme, (17) Works Staff in the District.

Section V—Establishment.—(1) Personal cases—maintenance of service books, character rolls, leave accounts, etc , of personnel employed under the Collector, (2) Appointments, postings and transfers, (3) Leave, (4) Departmental Proceedings, (5) Provident Fund Gratuity, (6) Pensions, (7) Security (8) Bill and Budget Works of the Collectorate.

Section VI—Legal Section.—(1) Revenue and Judicial Munshikhana, (2) Civil Suits, (3) Pauper Suits, (4) Criminal motions (5) Inspection of trial registers, (6) Appeals, (7) Correspondence with the Legal Remembrancer, (8) High Court, (9) Release of Prisoners (10) Pleaders, Mukhtears and Revenue Agents, (11) Probate, (12) Religious Endowments, (13) Payment of

Pleaders' bills, (14) Judicial Accounts, (15) Criminal Fines, (16) Law Agents and Law Clerks, (17) Other Criminal, Civil or Revenue Appeals or Motions and matters connected therewith, (18) Court Malkhana.

Section VII—Treasury and Accounts.—(1) Treasury and Accounts, (2) Sale of Stamps.

There was a certain amount of distinction in status between a Sadar subdivision and a *mufassil* subdivision. This distinction was done away with. The Sadar Subdivisional Officer has now his own office and a staff as the *Mufassil* Subdivisional Officers.

NATIONAL PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

As already mentioned with Independence in 1947 the character of the administration at both the levels of the Centre and the State underwent a great change. Maintenance of law and order and the collection of revenue were the main features of the administration before 1947. At the Centre the Planning Commission was to lay down the policy and to formulate schemes for the States and also to co-ordinate the development work at the States. The Centre placed large sums of money to the States to work out the schemes. The Centre in many cases gave technical aid as well.

The Planning Council and the State Planning Board were constituted at the State level to formulate and work out the schemes given by the Centre and those made at the State level and to see to a proper development of the rural areas. A further aim was to decentralise the activities of the State which were so long mostly concentrated at the district level.

With this object the Five-Year Plans formulated at the Centre were taken up at the State level along with the State schemes. A large number of welfare schemes were started all over the district in the First Five-Year Plan sponsored in 1951-52. The Second Five-Year Plan sponsored in 1955-56 underlines the work taken up and suggested an extension. The same work has been continued in the Third Five-Year Plan which started in 1961-62. The various economic plans undertaken as part of the State policy were to be partially implemented through the Community Development Projects and National Extension Service Blocks. A Block is an administrative unit for the rural areas mainly for development and revenue work. There is a talk of taking away the revenue work consisting mainly of realising the revenue from the Blocks and to leave them to do development work only.

There are 41 Blocks-*cum*-Anchals in the district, with headquarters distributed all over the district. A Block covers a number of specified villages and usually the name of the Block is the same

or that of the headquarters village. There is a Block Development Officer with a number of other officers under him such as a Doctor, a Statistical Supervisor, an Animal Husbandry man, a Social Organiser, a Co-operative man, an Industries department man, etc. The Block Development Officer is entrusted with the working of the schemes and projects sanctioned and also to evolve schemes and projects for the development of the village under him. He has a committee to help him in the work. The Block Development Officer is also entrusted to collect revenue and he has been given *karamcharis* for this work. He is not entrusted with judicial work. He is expected to devote his time for an intensive co-ordinated rural development of the area with the active participation of the people. If a Block Development Officer cannot draw out the co-operation of the people he has failed in his objective. His role as the revenue-collecting agent of the Government has been strongly criticised as interfering with his duty for development work.

Agriculture Department.

The District Agriculture Officer, Shahabad, is the administrative head of the department. He is under the administrative control of the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Patna Range with his headquarters at Patna. The Director of Agriculture is the administrative head of the Agriculture Department at the State level.

The District Agriculture Officer has four Subdivisional Agricultural Officers with headquarters at Arrah, Bhabua, Sasaram and Buxar respectively. The Subdivisional Agriculture Officers are assisted by two Additional Subdivisional Agriculture Officers with their headquarters at Arrah and Bhabua. The Additional Subdivisional Agriculture Officers look after the management of the Government farms.

The District Agriculture Officer is assisted by a team of subject-matter specialists in Botany, Chemistry, Engineering, Marketing, Horticulture and Fishery. Their job is to co-ordinate the result of research from the laboratories to the farmers in the field and to train the Village Level Workers and the Agricultural Extension Supervisors in the different blocks.

The Subdivisional Agriculture Officer is also assisted by a team of specialists in Fisheries and Horticulture

There are thirty-three Seed Multiplication Farms apart from two Research Farms and two Subdivisional Agricultural Farms in the district where experiments and trials are done.

There is one senior Plant Protection Officer with a team of Inspectors, Supervisors and Field Operators for prevention and

control of crop pests and diseases. There are 20 godowns and depots in the district where pesticides, sprays and plant protection equipments are sold or hired to the cultivators.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY DEPARTMENT.

There is a District Animal Husbandry Officer, with his headquarters at Arrah, to look after the Animal Husbandry Department in the district since 1957. He is under the administrative control of the Deputy Director of Animal Husbandry, Patna Range, Patna and the Director of Animal Husbandry with his headquarters at Patna.

Before September, 1954, the present Animal Husbandry Department was running under two different departments, namely, the Veterinary Department and the Animal Husbandry Department under two technical heads. In September 1954, these two departments were amalgamated and the Director of Veterinary Services was designated as the Director of Animal Husbandry, Bihar.

The District Animal Husbandry Officer is assisted by three Subdivisional Animal Husbandry Officers posted at Bhabua, Sasaram and Buxar respectively. Forty-one Animal Husbandry Supervisors are posted in each block, two stockmen and messengers for each block to assist the Animal Husbandry Supervisors. Apart from them a Livestock Inspector and a Fodder Overseer are working under the guidance of the District Animal Husbandry Officer at the district headquarters.

During the First Five-Year Plan four schemes were taken up namely, opening of Artificial Insemination Centre and Sub-Centres, Hospitals and Dispensaries, distribution of bulls and opening of key-villages in the district During the Second Five Year Plan a number of additional schemes were started.

COMMERCIAL TAXES DEPARTMENT.

The Shahabad Circle of the Commercial Taxes Department was started in 1944 and the area of the circle coincides with that of the revenue district of Shahabad comprising Arrah, Buxar, Bhabua and Sasaram subdivisions. The departmental head is the Commissioner of Commercial Taxes with headquarters at Patna. The Superintendent of Commercial Taxes used to be the head of this department but since 1962 the post was upgraded to that of an Assistant Commissioner of Commercial Taxes. The Assistant Commissioner of Commercial Taxes is now the head of the department. There are one Additional Superintendent, four Assistant Superintendents of Commercial Taxes with headquarters at Arrah

to assist the Assistant Commissioner of Commercial Taxes in the matter of assessment of tax on dealers. Besides, there is only one Inspector in the district.

The department is concerned with the assessment and realisation of the following taxes:—

(1) *Agricultural Income-tax.*—It was levied in 1938 under the Bihar Agricultural Income-tax Act, 1938, but its administration was first taken over by the Commercial Taxes Department in 1944-45 The collection had reached its peak in 1961-62 when it rose to Rs. 2,75,266 45 which was mainly due to enhancement in the rate of tax.

(2) *Bihar Sales Tax*—It was introduced in the State from 1944-45. In 1962-63 the collection from this tax amounted to Rs. 55,93,994 36.

(3) *Central Sales Tax*—Central Sales Tax, 1956, was introduced in Bihar from the 1st July, 1956 and collection from this tax was introduced in 1958-59 at Arrah. Since then there had been a constant rise in collection which rose to Rs 21,84,370.94 in 1962-63 This was partly due to increase in the rate of tax.

(4) *Entertainment Tax*—The administration of this tax was taken over by the Commercial Taxes Department in 1948-49 In 1962-63 the receipt was Rs 3,39,815 88.

(5) *Electricity Duty*—It was first levied in the district in 1948-49 The collection from this tax was Rs. 2,26,518 38 in 1959-60 and rose to Rs 3,16,849.16 in 1962-63.

(6) *Motor Spirit (Sales) Tax*—Before 1949 this tax was realised by the Excise Department. In 1956-57 the total receipt from this tax amounted to Rs. 2,35,462.83. Since then there has been a constant rise in collection which rose to Rs 4,94,910 44 in 1962-63 This was partly due to rise in duty and the gradual improvement in the condition of the roads of the district

(7) *Passengers and Goods Transport Tax*—It was levied for the first time in 1950 During 1955-56 the total yield from the tax was Rs. 62,683 90. In 1961-62 the total yield was Rs 4,150 15 because the Act was declared *ultra vires* in September, 1960. Again since 1963 March the tax has been enforced in the district.

The statement below supplied by the Commercial Taxes Department, Shahabad, will show the receipts from 1955-56 to 1962-63:—

Years	Agriculture Income-tax.	Bihar Sales Tax.	Central Sales Tax.	Entertainment Tax.	Electricity Duty.	Motor Spirit Tax.	Passenger and Goods Transport.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1955-56 .	1,01,854.36	22,16,597.47	Not introduced	1,74,024.33	1,10,392 50	1,85,426.06	62,683.90
1956-57 .	95,346.23	22,50,475.65	Ditto ..	2,22,790.22	1,04,911.39	2,35,462 83	53,420.28
1957-58	63,179.88	25,08,648 05	Ditto .	1,78,584.77	2,19,368.86	2,13,638.96	78,897.39
1958-59 ..	78,175 09	25,82,061 26	12,22,906.75	2,03,759.84	2,29,526 17	2,18,901 20	86,267.45
1959-60 ..	1,09,827 27	25,33,487.75	18,77,985 37	2,17,628 04	2,26,518 38	2,44,394.26	1,03,642 85
1960-61 ..	1,68,509 38	50,19,258 58	13,50,076.03	2,37,267.78	2,22,834.17	3,17,320.87	89.626 25
1961-62 ..	2.75,266.45	52,36,826 69	14,88,844.24	3,09,854.51	2,50 942.18	4,58,849.47	4,150.15
1962-63 ..	1,83,384.25	55,93,995.36	21,84,370 49	3,39,815.88	3,16,849.16	4,94,910.44	1,03,653.26

CO-OPERATIVE DEPARTMENT.

The Co-operative Department of the district is divided into four circles, namely, Arrah, Sasaram, Buxar and Bhabua. The Assistant Registrars with headquarters at Arrah, Bhabua, Sasaram and Buxar are in charge of their respective circles and one District Co-operative Officer with headquarters at Arrah whose jurisdiction is over the whole district.

The Assistant Registrars are under the District Co-operative Officer, Arrah, the Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Patna and the Registrar, Co-operative Department, Bihar, Patna, respectively. One Inspector, Co-operative Societies, designated as Co-operative Extension Supervisor and one Auditor are posted at each of the block headquarters. There are other Co-operative Inspectors whose services have been placed at the disposal of the Central Co-operative Bank, Arrah.

There are two amalgamated Central Co-operative Banks, viz., Arrah-Buxar and Sasaram-Bhabua There is a General Manager at Arrah and Sasaram and an Assistant Manager at the two branches at Buxar and Bhabua.

To link credit with marketing, *Vyapar Mandal Sahyog Samitis* are functioning at almost all the block headquarters in the district.

SUPPLY AND COMMERCE DEPARTMENT.

A Supply and Commerce Section or more popularly known as the Price Control Section was opened in every district office under the stress of short supply of essential commodities during the Second War years. The section has continued and is controlled by the Supply and Commerce Department at the Government level in Patna. The District Magistrate is the administrative head and the section works under a District Supply Officer who is helped by some Inspectors.

The District Supply Officer is assisted by four Assistant Supply Officers in the four subdivisions, namely, Sadar, Buxar, Sasaram and Bhabua under the administrative control of the respective Sub-divisional Officers. Besides, there are 12 Supply Inspectors in the district at different points, i.e., one at District headquarters, three at Arrah Sadar, three at Buxar subdivision, two at Bhabua subdivision and three at Sasaram subdivision to supervise the supply of essential commodities like cement, coal, sugar, iron goods, etc., wherever there is scarcity The main function of the department is to enforce the control orders and to see to the equitable distribution of essential commodities. Licensed dealers and Fair Price Shops in the urban areas are the usual agencies for such distribution.

Registration Department.

There are six registration offices under a Sub-Registrar each in the district, namely, Arrah (established in 1865), Jagdishpur (established in 1875), Bhabua (established in 1865), Buxar (established in 1865), Sasaram (established in 1865) and Bikramganj (established in 1900).

The Indian Registration Act, 1908, the Indian Stamp Act of 1899 and other allied Acts are in force and these offices are concerned with the proper registration of documents.

The District Sub-Registrar is the departmental head of the Registration Department under the immediate administrative control of the District Registrar, i.e., District Magistrate. The Inspector-General of Registration, Patna, is the head of the department.

The District Sub-Registrar's record room has many old registers and indices including copies of documents registered in 1797.

The Statistics below supplied by the Registration Department, Arrah, show the number of documents registered, receipts and expenditure of the whole district from 1953 to 1962. The figures include the statistics from all the registration offices located in the district:—

Year.	Documents registered.	Receipts in rupees.	Expenditure in rupees.
1953	43,059	4,39,945	88,440
1954	44,337	4,37,917	93,297
1955	46,170	4,21,914	90,918
1956	48,987	4,59,338	95,658
1957	49,426	4,64,807	1,00,992
1958	59,415	5,66,215	1,08,431
1959	56,129	5,65,464	1,05,193
1960	70,326	7,24,230	1,13,969
1961	67,069	7,25,612	1,17,884
1962	57,736	6,59,111	1,50,964

The Money-lenders Act came into force in 1938, authorising the Registering Officer to grant licences. The total number of licences granted to the money-lenders is 3,172 during 1962-63.

The District Sub-Registrar is the Marriage Officer under the Special Marriage Act, 1954 and since then only one marriage has been performed in 1962 under this Act.

State Excise Department.

The Superintendent of Excise is the head of the administration at the district level. He is under the immediate control of the District Magistrate, Shahabad. The Superintendent of Excise is also under the administrative control of the Deputy Commissioner of Excise, Southern Range at Ranchi and the Commissioner of Excise at Patna.

The district is divided into three ranges, namely, Arrah, Sasaram and Buxar under the charge of one Inspector each with headquarters at Arrah, Sasaram and Buxar. These three ranges have been further subdivided into ten circles, namely, Arrah, Bihea, Piro, Buxar, Dumraon, Bikramganj, Sasaram, Dehri, Mohania and Bhabua. Each circle is under the charge of one Sub-Inspector.

There are country spirit warehouses located at Arrah, Buxar, Koransarai, Bihea, Bikramganj, Garhani, Sasaram and Mohania. There are *ganja* and *bhang golas* at Arrah, Buxar, Sasaram and Bhabua. Each warehouse is under the charge of a Sub-Inspector. There are special centres at Arrah and Mohania. Besides, one Sub-Inspector has been posted at Dalmianagar Sugar Factory.

There is prohibition on oral consumption of opium and all the retail opium shops have been abolished from 1959-60. Opium is now supplied only to the *bona fide* addicts solely on medical grounds on the strength of the permits issued by the authorised medical practitioners. There is no prohibition in respect of liquor and other drugs, as the State has not yet adopted total prohibition.

Attempts are being made to prepare the ground for the same by restricting consumption through raising of the retail prices of the intoxicants and reducing the sale. New foreign liquor licences are also not being granted as a general practice. The incidence of illicit distillation case is comparatively low. The smuggling of cheap contraband *ganja* from Nepal is, however, a growing menace which is undermining the policy of gradual restriction of consumption of the drug and affecting Government revenue.

The table below will show the number of illicit distillation, *ganja* and *bhang* cases detected during 1959-60 to 1962-63:—

Nature of case.	1959-60		1960-61.		1961-62.		1962 63.	
	No. of cases detected.	Seizure.	No of cases detected.	Seizure	No of cases detected.	Seizure	No of cases detected.	Seizure.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Illicit distillation.	83	..	78	..	84	..	52	..
Ganja ..	77	137.225 kg	73	167.030 kg	83	70.158 kg.	78	77.775 kg.
Bhang ..	8	28.9378 kg.	3	10.3224 kg.	7	0.6415 kg	8	14 6731 kg.

The table below supplied by State Excise Department will show the statistics of the licences, consumpion and the revenue derived from different kinds of excisable commodities from 1953-54 to 1963-64 (December, 1963):—

Year.	Country Spirit.					*Ganja.*				
	No of license	Consumption	License fee.	Duty	Total revenue derived.	No of license	Consumption	License fee	Duty	Total revenue derived
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs			Rs	Rs.	Rs.
1953-54	105	83,995 3 gallons	3,66,698	13,25,222	16,91,920	92	47 maunds	25,311	3,22,000	3,47,311
1954-55	105	89,259.1 ,,	3,93,618	14,13,648	18,07,266	92	118 ,,	40,702	3,44,896	3,85,598
1955-56	105	87,332 8 ,,	3,70,594	13,83,093	17,53,687	91	97 ,,	30,319	2,86,425	3,16,744
1956-57	105	95,108 7 ,,	4,20,631	15,02,001	19,22,632	92	93 ,,	32,105	2,72,931	3,05,126
1957-58	105	92,597 5 ,,	4,43,281	14,90,377	19,33,658	92	97 ,,	31,315	2,92,727	3,24,042
1958-59	105	91,097.8 ,,	3,88,325	14,51,324	18,39,649	92	85 ,,	25,221	2,53,330	2,78,551
1959-60	105	1,07,245.1 ,,	4,68,514	17,51,221	22,19,735	92	86 ,,	25,431	2,57,636	2,83,067
1960-61	105	1,12,680.6 ,,	5,70,506	19,89,996	25,00,502	92	72 ,,	21,319	2,12,658	2,33,977
1961-62	105	1,17,817.5 ,,	5,42,271	22,00,450	27,92,721	92	42 ,,	9,820	1,87,405	1,97,225
1962-63	105	5,48,428 6 litres	6,05,889	24,78,749	30,84,638	91	1,138 kilograms	9,866	1,34,336	1,44,002
1963-64	105	5,58,218.5 ,,	7,14,649	25,10,990	32,25,639	92	721 500 ,,	7,892	84,735	92,627

Year.	Bhang					Opium.				
	No of license.	Consumption.	License fee.	Duty.	Total revenue derived	No of license	Consumption	License fee	Duty	Total revenue derived.
1	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
			Rs	Rs	Rs.		M s ch	Rs	Rs.	Rs
1953-54	50	75 maunds	21,667	26,713	48,380	19	1 7 0	9,158	19,975	29,153
1954-55	50	67 ,,	22,552	24,378	46,930	19	1 11 0	9,184	21,715	30,899
1955-56	50	51 ,,	15,088	17,555	32,643	19	1 6 0	8,149	19,780	27,929
1956-57	50	48 ,,	15,115	16,985	32,700	19	1 5 0	9,338	19,135	28,473
1957-58	50	49 ,,	19,164	13,081	37,245	18	1 1 0	8,169	17,630	25,799
1958-59	50	51 ,,	16,180	18,225	34,405	17	0 24 0	4,422	10,320	14,342
1959-60	50	52 ,,	14,773	18,232	33,005	3	0 3 0	628	1,717	2,045
1960-61	50	50 ,,	18,642	18,504	37,146	3	0 2 0	392	860	125
1961-62	50	57 ,,	13,769	17,068	30,837	3	0 1 0	127	430	537
1962-63	49	1,642 kilograms	14,670	16,279	30,949	3	Nil	33	Nil	33
1963-64	50	1,450 ,,	15,789	14,041	29,830	3	Nil	34	Nil	34

Year.	Foreign liquor including rectified spirit.		Toddy.					
	No of license.	Total revenue.	No of license	License fee	Tree tax.	Total revenue	Revenue derived from miscellaneous and other sources	Total annual revenue
1	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
		Rs.		Rs	Rs.	Rs	Rs	Rs.
1953-54 .. .	10	7,861	477	1,52,651	1,86,533	3,39,184	20,950	25,15,859
1954-55	10	8,210	477	1,55,105	2,05,556	3,66,661	22,996	27,01,860
1955 56	10	7,179	476	1,56,046	2,21,475	3,77,521	22,624	26,13,929
1956-57	10	9,576	472	1,60,135	2,31,168	3,91,303	15,885	27,79,455
1957-58 .. .	10	10,445	472	1,64,212	2,37,257	4,01,563	17,474	28,46 176
1958-59	10	10,350	472	1,71,611	2,23,863	2,95,474	16,465	26,93,866
1959-60 . ..	10	10,833	472	1,74,161	2,38,856	4,11,020	25,387	31,00,742
1960-61 .. .	10	12,565	471	1,71,722	2,47,787	4,19,509	25,186	33,77,789
1961-62 . ..	10	13,879	471	1,81 059	2,51,024	4,32,088	20,961	36,03,368
1962-63	10	20,558	471	2,07,870	2,74,784	4,82,654	29,379	39,95,952
1963-64	9	37,401	471	2,14,995	2,66,093	4,81,088	35,376	41,03,745

STAMPS.

There is one Treasury Officer of the Finance Service at the District Treasury Office. Besides, there are three Sub-treasury Officers at Sasaram, Bhabua and Buxar. These officers are under the direct control of the District Magistrate, Shahabad. The Sub-divisional Officers of *mufassil* subdivisions are the heads of sub-treasury offices.

The revenue from the sale of stamps is an important source of income to the State Government.

The statement below supplied by Shahabad Treasury Office will show the receipts from the sale of stamps:—

Years		Non-judicial in rupees	Judicial in rupees.
1955-56	..	9,38,145 50	10,25,379 75
1956-57	..	10,84,027.00	9,43,353 00
1957-58	..	12,18,888.75	8,92,870 00
1958-59	..	13,78,066 00	9,52,707 00
1959-60	..	14,93,259 66	9,86,693 52
1960-61	.	17,61,457.57	10,50,748.76
1961-62	..	18,39,366 12	10,47,733 00
1962-63	.	18,67,238 40	10,80,571 95

LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION

After nationalisation of Life Insurance works the Life Insurance Corporation, India, was set up and the Arrah branch was sponsored in October, 1956. The branch office at Arrah has one sub-branch office located at Dehri-on-Sone The branch office is under the supervision of Branch Manager and the sub-branch office is under an Assistant Branch Manager. The Arrah branch is under the Patna Division

There are fifteen officers in Arrah branch who are distributed at different places.

The Dehri sub-branch has twelve field officers and they are distributed over Dehri, Bhabua and Sasaram.

The field officers have a specified area in their charge and work through appointed village agents. These village agents work on commission basis calculated on the premiums paid on policies.

STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

The District Statistical Officer is in charge of the Statistics Department at the district level He is under the administrative control of the District Magistrate and also works under the Directorate of Economics and Statistics in Patna. His duty is to collect

statistics of various descriptions and also to carry out any sample survey, if ordered. He is expected to watch the weekly progress of the surveys to give the necessary direction to the field staff

Below the District Statistical Officer come Inspectors, Investigators and Compilers. At present (1964), the District Statistical Officer is assisted by the following set of staff –

(1) One District Statistical Supervisor posted at Arrah.

(2) One District Statistical Inspector posted at Arrah

(3) One District Statistical Assistant Inspector posted at Arrah

(4) 41 Junior Statistical Supervisors at different block headquarters

(5) Four Junior Field Investigators posted at Arrah, Sasaram, Bhabua and Buxar

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

The District Inspector of Weights and Measures under the administrative control of the District Magistrate runs the Inspectorate of Weights and Measures. The Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures at Patna and the Divisional Inspector at Patna are also the supervisory authority of the District Inspector of Weights and Measures.

The District Inspector is assisted by four Subdivisional Inspectors posted at Sadar Bhabua, Sasaram and Buxar subdivisions. Their duty is to see that correct weights and measures are used. They have the authority to verify the weights and weighing instruments and to prosecute, if necessary They seize unauthorised weights and measures and educate the public to use correct weights and measures Their work has become all the more important owing to the recent changes in the measures by law.

GRAM PANCHAYAT DEPARTMENT.

The District Gram Panchayat Officer with his headquarters at Arrah is under the control of the District Magistrate. At the divisional level the Regional Deputy Director is the administrative head with his headquarters at Patna The Director of Gram Panchayats in Patna is the administrative head

There are 41 Gram Panchayat Supervisors in the blocks. Till the end of October, 1963, the Gram Panchayat Department has been able to form 816 Gram Panchayats covering the total area of this district

Out of 816 Notified Gram Panchayats first election has been completed in 742 panchayats while election is yet to be completed in the remaining 74 Gram Panchayats Three hundred and four

Gram Sewaks have been appointed in this district against a sanctioned strength of 768 *Gram Sewaks*. The *Gram Sewaks* already appointed have been posted in the panchayats, where they are giving due assistance to the Panchayat *Mukhiyas* in their day-to-day work. Out of the total strength of *Gram Sewaks* on the roll 747 are trained while 21 are untrained. Under the Government programme regarding organisation of Village Volunteer Force, 247 trained and 102 untrained chief officers are working in this district. There are 27,429 enrolled volunteers in this district out of which 7,359 have been trained.

Public Relations Department.

Prior to 1952 the Public Relations Department was known as the Publicity Department. The Public Relations Officer is the head of the department. He is assisted by four Assistant Public Relations Officers with headquarters at Arrah, Bhabua, Sasaram and Buxar respectively.

The District Public Relations Officer and the Assistant Public Relations Officers are under the immediate control of the District Magistrate. The department is the link between the people and the State Government He is also under the Director, Public Relations with headquarters in Patna.

A mobile publicity van equipped with a projector is taken round the district and free film shows and talks are arranged on various useful topics.

There is an Information Centre at Arrah where several daily newspapers, magazines, publicity literature, etc., are kept for public consumption It was observed that the Information Centre is visited by a few persons and cannot be said to be much popular

Medical Department.

There are two distinct sections so far as the administration of the Health Department is concerned. Broadly speaking, one section deals with the preventive side which is known as the Public Health Department and the other section deals with the curative side known as the Medical Department. The former is headed by the District Medical Officer of Health and the latter by the Civil Surgeon. The functions of both the officers are different, although in certain matters the District Medical Officer of Health is to act in consultation with the Civil Surgeon

The Civil Surgeon, who is a senior member of the State Medical Service, is the Superintendent of all the hospitals and dispensaries in the district maintained either by the District Board or the Government. He exercises complete professional control over the Government Medical Officers in the hospitals and dispensaries. He is also expected to help the Mission and the other private hospitals within the district.

According to a Government Circular no. 11-A3-43 of 1958-59, dated the 3rd January, 1959, the posts of the Civil Surgeons in the districts were converted into posts of Senior Executive Medical Officers and Civil Surgeons with the result that in this district the Senior Executive Medical Officer is responsible for the efficient implementation, supervision and control of all public health measures, preventive as well as curative.

The Senior Executive Medical Officer is responsible for the enforcement of drug control measures as well. He is the authority to issue license for medical shops.

There are 20 State dispensaries in the district located in the blocks and 103 health centres. The Sadar Hospital at Arrah has six doctors including one lady doctor. The subdivisional hospitals have got doctors and other medical staff. The Public Health Department has got a chain of officers. More details will be found in the text on "Medical and Public Health Services".

WELFARE DEPARTMENT

This department has been created at the Government level to look after the particular interests of the Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes and the Backward Classes. There is a District Welfare Officer who works both under the District Magistrate and the Secretary, Welfare Department.

This department was started on 1st April 1948 at Arrah. At that time the Harijan Welfare Officer was the administrative head at the district level and he used to be under the administrative control of the Divisional Welfare Officer with headquarters at Patna. From 1958 the post of the Divisional Welfare Officer was abolished and the post of Harijan Welfare Officer was designated as the District Welfare Officer.

The District Welfare Officer with his headquarters at Arrah works under the District Magistrate, Shahabad. There is an Assistant Welfare Officer with headquarters at Arrah to assist the District Welfare Officer. There are 18 Welfare Inspectors posted in the Block for the welfare work in it.

The District Welfare Officer is to implement the various welfare programmes indicated in the First, Second and Third Five-Year Plans for the uplift of the people belonging to Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes such as establishment of grain-*golas*, construction of special schools, hostels, residential buildings and sinking of wells, etc. The District Welfare Officer must have reliable statistics and be dynamic and sincere in his work, otherwise, the objective will remain more of paper-work.

EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE.

The Employment Exchange Office is under the charge of the District Employment Officer who is under the control of the Regional Employment Officer, Patna. The Employment Exchange

has also one more branch at Dalmianagar under the control of Assistant Employment Officer. The jurisdiction of the District Employment Officer extends to Arrah Sadar and Buxar subdivisions and that of the Assistant Employment Officer to Bhabua and Sasaram subdivisions. The administrative head is the State Director of National Employment Service in Patna

The chief function of the department is to serve as a link between the employer and the unemployed and to find employment for the unemployed. The unemployed are expected to register themselves indicating their qualifications and preference for particular job or trade The entries are categorised and whenever there is a demand from any employer, the Exchange Officer sends up the names of the suitable candidates The arrangement does not work well as the employers seldom notify all their requirements to the Exchange and there are too many unqualified registered candidates looking for jobs of one and the other type.

ELECTION DEPATRMENT.

The District Election Officer runs the section under the control of the District Magistrate and the Chief Electoral Officer in Patna He is assisted by four Election Supervisors who are in charge of Sadar, Bhabua, Buxar and Sasaram subdivisions The Election Department has to maintain an up-to-date electoral roll and to see to the carrying out of the instructions of the Government regarding election matters

MALARIA DEPARTMENT.

The Malaria Department at Arrah was established in February, 1959. The Anti-Malaria Officer at Arrah is the administrative head of his circle with headquarters at Arrah He is under the administrative control of the Chief Malaria Officer, Patna with his headquarters at Patna.

The Anti-Malaria Officer, Arrah, is assisted by four Assistant Anti-Malaria Officers each of them being in charge of four sub-units, namely, Arrah proper, Bhabua, Buxar and Sasaram There are 21 Malaria Inspectors and 68 Superior Field Workers under the guidance of Anti-Malaria Officer.

SOLDIERS', SAILORS' AND AIRMEN'S BOARD.

At the conclusion of Great War, 1914—18, the Government of India under resolution no. 1788, dated the 7th February 1919, constituted the Indian Soldiers' Board at Delhi to look into the various problems that inevitably arose during the period of demobilization, when men released from the Army had not yet settled down to the ordinary conditions of peace. Shahabad and Saran districts which had taken active part in the Sepoy Mutiny of 1857 were neglected as very few recruitments were done in these districts. Only some of

the Rajputs from the villages of Masarh, Karisath, Gidha, Nawada Ben and Udwantnagar were recruited in the Rajput Regiment and Hyderabad Auxiliary Force. They were recruited because of their previous history of belonging to martial race. After demobilisation in 1918-19, the ex-service-men formed a Soldiers' Board of their own under the presidentship of the District Magistrate in the year 1924 and the first Secretary of the Shahabad (Arrah) Board was Subedar Major Brahm Deo Narain Singh Later in 1943, when there was a mass recruitment throughout the Indian Union for Second World War, 1939—45, the Government of India decided to constitute Soldiers' Boards in all the districts where a good number of recruits had come forward and Arrah Soldiers' Board was formed by the ex-service-men.

There is a Secretary for the District Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board with his headquarters at Arrah He is under the control of the District Magistrate, who is the Honorary President of the Board The State Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board, Patna, is the head office and the Governor of the State is the President of the Board. The State Board is affiliated to Indian Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board with headquarters at New Delhi A committee of 13 official and non-official members has also been constituted to help the District Magistrate in functioning of the Board

The main aim of this Board is to look after the welfare of the ex service-men and the family of the serving soldiers Shahabad, it may be mentioned, has always been a good recruiting district for military personnel The total strength of this circle was 24,942 men including ex-service-men, serving personnel and the deceased. The Board tries to help the ex service personnel in securing service and in their litigations The Board also helps the relatives of the service men in their troubles.

The Board has sanctioned one hundred Secondary School Scholarships at the rate of Rs 8 per month, forty-five primary education scholarships at the rate of Rs 5 per annum, eleven college education scholarships at the rate of Rs 30 per month and technical education scholarship at the rate of Rs. 20 and Rs 50 per month.

The Soldiers' Board has its own building constructed by the subscriptions raised by the District Magistrate and ex-service-men and the opening ceremony was performed by His Excellency Sir T. A. Stewart, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.C.S., Governor of Bihar, on July 27th, 1941

In 1951, the Government of Bihar sanctioned suitable amount from the Services Post-War Reconstruction Fund and a Rest House was constructed for the benefit of all the serving soldiers, ex-service-men and the families.

In 1964 with the Chinese aggression, the District Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board was taken over by the Bihar Government and now it is a State Government organisation.

PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING.

There are two subdivisions of this department located at Arrah and Dehri-on-Sone. The Subdivisional Officers, Public Health Engineering are the head at district level and the Subdivisional Officer of Arrah subdivision is under the administrative control of the Executive Engineer, Patna Division and the Dehri subdivision is under the administrative control of the Executive Engineer, Gaya Division and the Superintending Engineer at Patna The Chief Engineer at Patna is the administrative head of the department.

There are two Sectional Officers under Arrah subdivision posted at Arrah and two Sectional Officers posted at Dehri-on-Sone and Sasaram.

About 280 tube-wells in different villages in Arrah subdivision and 178 tube-wells in Dehri subdivision are maintained by the department.

INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT.

The department was started in 1956 at Shahabad. The District Industries Officer is the administrative head of this department who is under the direct control of the Director of Industries, Bihar, at Patna. The District Industries Officer has an Inspector at Arrah and 26 Industrial Extension Supervisors posted at various block headquarters of the district. The main function of this department is to encourage and develop the small-scale and village industries

Training-*cum* Production centres had been started at different places in the district where the trainees are given monthly stipends. Many of the centres located in different blocks of the district have closed down.

LABOUR DEPARTMENT

The Labour Superintendent, Shahabad with his headquarters at Arrah is the head of the department. He is under the direct control of the Assistant Labour Commissioner with his headquarters at Patna. The Labour Commissioner at Patna is the head of the department. The Labour Superintendent is assisted by two Labour Officers posted at Arrah, Sasaram, Bhabua, Buxar and Dehri-on-Sone

The main duties of the Labour Officer are to promote harmonious relations between the labour and the management and to act as the liaison officer between them He has to insist on the amenities to the labour and to see that the labour laws are implemented. In cases of disputes he has to take necessary steps according to law.

IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT.

(*a*) The Irrigation Department is divided into two components, namely, Major Irrigation and Minor Irrigation. The Major Irrigation Section is controlled by the Superintending Engineer, Sone Circle with his headquarters at Arrah

The Superintending Engineer is assisted by four Executive Engineers—one posted at Buxar, two at Arrah and one at Dehri-on-Sone The list of Subdivisional Officers and Sectional Officers is given below:—

(1) Buxar Division has four subdivisions located at Sikroul, Nokha, Basawan and Manoharpur Besides, there is one temporary Remodelling subdivision located at Jamorore The division has 18 sections, namely, 13 for canal and five for Remodelling subdivisions

(2) Arrah Division has seven subdivisions, viz, Arrah I and II (temporary), Agiawan, Nasriganj, Danwar, Ramnagar and Koath and 25 sections

(3) Dehri Division has four subdivisions, viz, Daudnagar, Arwal, Bikramganj and Dehri and 13 sections

(4) Arrah Lift Irrigation Division has four subdivisions, viz, Arrah I and II, Buxar and Dehri and 14 sections, seven for tube-well and seven for mechanical

The subdivisions are headed by Subdivisional Officers and sections are under Sectional Officers

(*b*) Minor Irrigation Section was created in August, 1960 with its headquarters at Arrah The Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation, with his headquarters is posted at Arrah He is under the administrative control of Chief Engineer, Minor Irrigation at Patna The Executive Engineer is assisted by four Subdivisional Officers posted at Arrah, Sasaram, Buxar and Bhabua and 41 Sectional Officers in different Block headquarters

A number of river dams constructed by the Irrigation Department will play an increasing role of importance for this district The face of Dehri areas and Bhabua subdivision will be completely changed in the course of the next decade when the objectives of these dams are fulfilled

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

The District Education Officer with his headquarters at Arrah looks after this department at the district level He works under the control of the Regional Deputy Director of Education with his headquarters at Patna The Director of Public Instruction with his headquarters at Patna is the head of the Department.

The District Education Officer is assisted by a number of officers. Each subdivision is placed under the charge of a Subdivisional Education Officer with headquarters at Arrah, Bhabua, Buxar and Sasaram.

At the district level the District Education Officer is assisted by the District Superintendent of Education and the Deputy Superintendent of Physical Education posted at Arrah There is a Deputy Superintendent for Basic Education and District Inspectress of Schools at Arrah.

There are four Deputy Inspectors of Schools with their head quarters at Arrah Sadar, Buxar, Bhabua and Sasaram There are 41 Sub-Inspectors of Schools in the district who are responsible for their respective circle. With effect from December, 1962, the designation of the Sub-Inspector of Schools has been changed and now they are called Education Extension Officers. There is one Deputy Inspector of Schools posted at Sasaram.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

There are two divisions of the Public Works Department under Executive Engineers with headquarters at Arrah and Dehri-on-Sone. The Executive Engineers are under the control of the Superintending Engineer with his headquarters at Patna and the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, Bihar at Patna

The main duty of the Executive Engineers is the construction of roads and buildings etc, and to maintain the roads and buildings already constructed The Executive Engineers supervise and control the work of the Public Works Department Subdivisional Officers. They have also their responsibility in controlling the expenditure and make payments to the contractors

The Arrah Division has three subdivisions, namely, Arrah, Buxar and Koelwar with ten sections in all, namely, Arrah I and Arrah II, Piro, Dumraon, Buxar, Chousa I and Chousa II, Koelwar nos I, II and III. The subdivisions are under the charge of three Subdivisional Officers and the sections are under the control of sectional officers.

The Dehri Division has three subdivisions, namely, Sasaram, Dehri and Bhabua and nine sections, namely, Dehri I and II, Sasaram, Bhabua I and II, Nokha, Nasriganj, Mohania and Chainpur

ELECTRICITY DEPARTMENT

There are two Divisions of Electricity Board, viz., Arrah Electricity Division and Dehri-on Sone Electricity Division An Electricity Executive Engineer is in charge of the division and is under the control of the Electrical Superintending Engineer, Patna Circle, with his headquarters at Patna. The Chief Engineer, Electricity Department, Bihar with his headquarters at Patna is the head of the department.

The Executive Engineer of Arrah Division is assisted by three Assistant Electrical Engineers with their headquarters at Arrah and Buxar. The Executive Engineer of Dehri Division is also assisted by three Assistant Electrical Engineers with their headquarters at Dehri, Sasaram and Bhabua. They are in charge of the transmission and distribution in their respective jurisdiction.

About eight towns and 246 villages have been electrified till the end of December, 1963 The towns are Arrah, Buxar, Dumraon, Jagdishpur, Bhabua, Bikramganj, Sasaram and Dehri-on-Sone.

Central Excise

There are five range offices of the Central Excise Department at Arrah, Bihia, Buxar, Sasaram and Mohania under the control of Inspector of Central Excise The Inspector is controlled by the Superintendent of Central Excise with headquarters at Dalmianagar in Shahabad district and the Assistant Collector of Central Excise at Ranchi There are only two Inspectors posted at Arrah and Buxar The Collector of Central Excise with his headquarters at Patna is the administrative head of the department.

The chief function of the department is to look after the proper collection of excise duty on commodities like tobacco, non-essential vegetable oil, cement, sugar, etc, levied by the Central Government.

Postal Department.

The Postal Department is under the control of the Superintendent of Post Offices with his headquarters at Arrah and the Post Master General, Bihar at Patna For administrative purposes the Postal Division has been divided into five subdivisions There are five Inspectors out of which three are at Arrah, one at Sasaram and one at Dalmianagar One Complaints Inspector has also been appointed at Arrah

There are two head post offices located at Sasaram and Arrah. There are two types of sub-post offices, i.e. departmental and extra-departmental. The strength of the departmental sub-post office in the district is 72 and that of extra-departmental is eight. In extra-departmental sub-post office, Extra-Departmental Agents are appointed There are 504 branch post offices The majority of the sub-post offices are served direct by rail communication with railway mail service and a few of them are served by roads through mail runners. The branch post offices are located at bigger villages.

Telegraph Engineering.

The department was started in August, 1963 at Arrah at subdivisional level Prior to 1963 it was managed by Patna subdivision of telegraphs and telephones. The Subdivisional Officer, telegraphs and telephones is the head of this department who is under the administrative control of Divisional Telegraph Engineer at Patna. The Subdivisional Officer is assisted by five Engineering Supervisors out of which four are of telegraphs and one of telephones.

Income-tax.

Administration of Income-tax is a Central subject and is administered by the Central Government. The jurisdiction of the Income-tax Officer extends over the whole of Shahabad district. He is assisted by one Income-Tax Inspector at Arrah

The Controlling Officer of the Income-Tax Officer at Arrah is the Inspecting Assistant Commissioner of Income-tax, Northern Range with headquarters at Patna. He is under the Commissioner of Income-tax with his headquarters at Patna whose jurisdiction extends over the whole of Bihar and Orissa.

The Income-tax Officer issues notices every year at the beginning of the financial year to all assessees to file returns of income of the previous year and frame assessments in due course The assessees are also under legal obligation to file their returns *suo moto* without waiting for the receipt of a notice from the Income-Tax Officer. The rate of tax, however, is determined by the Annual Finance Act passed by the Central Legislature.

The Income-Tax Officer is also the Gift-Tax Officer, Wealth-Tax Officer and Expenditure-Tax Officer for Shahabad circle.

For Estate Duty cases including the Income-tax, the Assistant Controller of Estate Duty-*cum*-Income-tax with his headquarters at Patna is the authority He is under the administrative control of the Deputy Controller of Estate Duty, Calcutta Range with his headquarters at Calcutta With regard to appeals all the cases from the Income-tax Officer at Arrah lie with his Appellate Assistant Commissioner of Income-tax with his headquarters at Patna.

The figures of assessment and collection of Income-tax along with the number of assessees are given below for six years:—

Year	No. of assessees.	Net demand in Rs	Net collection in Rs
1958-59	1,498	7,20,000	6,70,000
1959-60	1,564	8,80 000	7,00,000
1960-61	1,572	8,50,000	7,80,000
1961-62	1,805	9,00,000	8,80,000
1962-63 . . .	1,607	13,00,000	11,00,000
1963-64	1,830	17,52,000	16,78,000

PACKAGE OFFICE.

Under the Third Five-Year Plan, the Intensive Agriculture District Programme, popularly known as the Package Programme was started in Shahabad from October, 1960 with a separate contingent of staff under the administrative control of the Collector of the district. With the inception of the Intensive Agriculture District Programme, the District Agriculture Officer has now been placed under the administrative control of the Special Deputy Director of Agriculture of the Intensive Agriculture District Programme. The District Agriculture Officer now generally looks to the agriculture production plan for the non-Intensive Agriculture District Programme Blocks.

At the district level a senior officer designated as Administrative Officer-on-Special Duty guides the programme under the general control and supervision of the Collector On the technical side he is assisted by a Special Deputy Director, Agriculture and a Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies, there are also a few specialists staff like an Agriculture Engineer assisted by an Assistant Agriculture Engineer and with other technical staff for the agriculture implements workshop of the Intensive Agriculture District Programme There is an Assistant Soil Chemist for the soil testing laboratory under the Intensive Agriculture District Programme and a District Information Officer and Assistant District Information Officer with other supporting staff for the information unit of the Intensive Agriculture District Programme.

At the block level a Project Executive Officer is responsible for the implementation of the Intensive Agriculture District Programme He is assisted by an Agriculture Officer and an Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies.

CHAPTER X.

LAND REVENUE ADMINISTRATION.

REVENUE HISTORY.

The district of Shahabad under Moghal Administration combined in it the two *Sarkars* of Shahabad and Rohtas. *Sarkar* Chausa formed a separate administrative unit. *Sarkar* Shahabad included in it the northern portions of the present district with the addition of the three important *parganas* of Ratan, Kotah and Mangror. The *Sarkar* Rohtas included in it parganas of Chainpur, Sasaram and Rohtas and Siris, Kutumba, Japla and Balaunija on the eastern bank of the Sone. They had got separate revenue rolls and were separate administrative units, under *Faujdar*. These revenue rolls changed from time to time. Under Alivardi Khan's revision in 1750, the assessment of *Sarkar* Shahabad was raised to Rs. 8,26,845 from Rs. 7,77,295 and that of *Sarkar* Rohtas was raised to Rs 5,39,565 from Rs. 4,55,588. This assessment was raised under Kasim Ali to Rs. 15,47,055 in respect of *Sarkar* Shahabad and Rs 13,94,218 in respect of Rohtas.

This assessment was again revised by Mohammad Reza Khan in 1766. It is thus observed that the Revenue assessment of the district had a very fluctuating tendency and a gradual increment was common under Moghal Administration.

REVENUE ADMINISTRATION, 1766–81.

In the treaties of August, 1765 Shitab Rai, the Imperial *Diwan* was appointed to receive for the Emperor Shah Alam, the annual sum of twenty-six lakhs of rupees. In 1766 he became the Company's *Diwan* for Bihar and though he still retained the title of Imperial *Diwan*, with an additional title of Maharaja Bahadur, the responsibility for transmitting the reserved revenue was transferred by the Emperor to Moniruddoula. From 1766 settlements were made by Shitab Rai who was nominally controlled by the Chief of Patna Factory, styled at first as Collector of Bihar and in 1769 styled as Supervisor.

In 1770 the Revenue Council at Patna was constituted to supervise revenue matters, and from the very beginning, the Council had intervened in matters of detail. The revenues were formed on a five-years term in 1772, and the arrangement remained in existence till 1771. The Directors of the Company announced their desire to stand forth as *Diwan* and ordered that Shitab Rai's post be abolished and that an enquiry should be held into his administration during the famine of 1770. Shitab Rai returned to Patna to die of its

shock, but his son Kallian Singh was appointed in succession to him to the office of the Company's *Diwan,* with Khiali Ram and Sadhu Ram as his *naibs* Kallian Singh's post was practically sinecure, because the Council continued to administer with increasing inefficiency From 1776 to 1780 the quinquennial form was continued by annual settlements, but in 1781 the Council was abolished. Maharaja Kallian Singh became the Farmer-General for Bihar and he divided his farm with one of his *na'bs,* Raja Khiali Ram, the Agarwala financier of Patna William Maxwell was appointed as the Revenue Chief to supervise the revenue matters of Bihar. On his death in 1781, he was succeeded by William Augustus Brooke, who remained in his office till it was abolished in 1787

Administration under Revenue Chiefs, 1781–87

In the revenue division of Bihar, Raja Khiali Ram held the least remunerative and the most troublesome *parganas* These were *parganas* Chainpur and Sasaram and the rest of *Sarkar* Rohtas, an area particularly affected by the disturbances at the time of Raja Chait Singh

Separation of Rohtas District, 1784

A large area was cut off from the district in 1784 from the Revenue Chief's jurisdiction, leaving him only the north and west of *Zila Bihar*, and the old *Sarkar* Shahabad The new district of Rohtas included Chainpur and Sasaram *parganas* with the *pargana* east of them across the Sone, up to and including the Tikari zamindari Thomas Law was appointed Magistrate and Collector of the district with headquarters at Gaya

Annual Settlements 1785–87

Brooke pressed for a settlement for a term of at least five years, but he was ordered to continue Shore's settlement by annual extensions. In 1786 a thousand *raiyats* of Danwar *pargana* exasperated by the exactions of the farmer Santokh Rai, deserted to Sasaram. Brooke asked Thomas Law to hand over the absconders to the farmer, but Law declined, seeing that there must have been real oppression to drive the cultivators to leave their land and home. Some idea of the exactions attempted by the farmer may be gathered from the *Abwabs* levied by Dost Dewan Singh of Dumraon, who held the farm of the northern *parganas*. Brooke found him in 1787 attempting to collect as rent over three fourths of the produce, but he declined to permit the exaction of rent at this rate, holding the farmer to be not following his covenants which prohibited the collection of more than nine-sixteenth of the produce. This rate had been fixed as the maximum rate by the Patna Council on November 5th 1770, and the standard form of the farmer's *Kabuliyat* contained an undertaking not to collect at higher rates on any pretext.

CREATION OF SHAHABAD DISTRICT, 1787.

Early in 1787 the Government of Lord Cornwallis decided to divide the country into collectorships of moderate size, in preparation of the new settlement for a term of at least ten years. It was proposed that the collections of a single district should not exceed five lakhs of rupees, but this standard was not observed in south Bihar, where the new districts were large *Zilla* Rohtas was split up Its eastern portion formed part of Thomas Laaw's new district of Bihar, while the western portion fell into Shahabad district, of which William Augustus Brooke became the first Collector. The Shahabad district as then constituted consisted of the areas now included in Shahabad, without Chausa and with the addition of the *Doaba* pargana on the northern bank of the Ganga The new arrangement was brought into effect in July 1787

JOHN SHORE'S SETTLEMENT, 1783--85

John Shore was specially deputed to make a resettlement of Bihar, which he did in the last three months of 1783 The whole of Shahabad was settled with Ahmad Ali Khan, one of the great revenue farmers, for three years at the annual *Jama* of Rs 9,10,208. Ahmad Ali tried hard to fulfil the engagement, but he was in trouble from the beginning of the farm and he had to resign in 1785 Renters in those days enjoyed large powers of distraint and of coercion of *raiyats*, but Shahabad was not a favourable place for the exercise of such powers

In the rainy season of 1785 Chaudhri Dhawal Singh of Dinara attacked Ahmad Ali Khan's office and after killing four men and wounding thirteen others, he looted the treasury and released the defaulters, who were in confinement Ahmad Ali Khan complained that the *raiyats* would beat his *sarawals* It was evident that it had been very difficult to realise the stipulated revenue and that the attempt was accompanied by considerable amount of oppression of *raiyats* Rai Bakshi, son of Raja Khiali Ram already held a permanent settled estate of Pawarah, but in 1792 he defaulted and his estate was confiscated and settled with petty landlords In Arrah Behea, Danwar and Dinara, Nurul Hussain Khan, an ancestor of Koath family held a large estate of which he had been for some years out of possession and held some villages in lieu of *malikana* He had sold or mortgaged many of these villages, whereby complications arose, which made it difficult to throw back the *malikana* land into zamindari which was a necessary condition for settling the whole with the zamindars Consequently he was left in possession of his *malikana* villages and the rest of the estate was settled with farmers who were already in possession of the portions

Similar settlements were made in the south of the district, that is, in Sasaram and Bhabua area. While making settlement in Chainpur *pargana* some land was held in Khas possession of the Government, which forms the present day Government estates in Kaimur hills.

Considerate views were taken in making settlements and allowing *malikana* land to those zamindars who held high status in the society and were on good terms with the Government.

The Decennial System

In August of 1787 general directions were issued to Collectors to make preparations for the new settlement, which was to be made for a period of ten years, where possible, with the zamindars. At the end of the year Thomas Law prepared his *Mukarrari* plan, for the resettlement of the Narhat-Samai country; and the scheme for a permanent settlement was supported by Brooke, who had certainly seen enough of the evils of the farming system and other short-term settlements. The new settlement was for a term of ten years from 1789, but in 1793 it was made permanent. More than half of the area of the old *Sarkar* Shahabad was settled with the heads of the three great branches of the Rajput family, which had for so long been predominant in this part of the district, Raja Bikramajit Singh of Dumraon, and his kinsmen, Bhupnarain Singh and Bhagwat Singh of Jagdishpore and Buxar respectively. There would have been justification for excluding Chaudhri Dhawal Singh from settlement, but his past violence was condoned; and most of the Dinara area was settled with him.

In the south of the district, the ancient Rajput family which had originally ruled at Chainpur had been ousted early in the 16th century by the Pathans. The head of the family Raja Arimardan Singh of Bhagwanpur had been recognised as zamindar by Muhammad Raza Khan in 1766. The collateral relations of Arimardan Singh held small estates at Ramgarh and Jaitpur These smaller zamindars obtained settlement in 1789, but the main estates had been confiscated in 1785 when Arimardan Singh had murdered a neighbour, and the greater part of Chainpur was settled with small proprietors, while a part was held by Government as *Khas,* forming the present Government estates in the *Kaimur* hills in the Bhabua subdivision In the Sasaram *parganas* a Rajput, named Pahalwan Singh had established himself in the first half of the 18th century in a manner, much resembling that of Kamgar Khan in Hasua in Gaya district but the status of his descendants Jagannath Singh and Sannaut Singh had been definitely recognised by the Patna Council, and they were admitted to the settlement of the villages in which their zamindari rights had been acknowledged, while the rest of the *pargana* was settled with petty proprietor-collectors of rent in villages (mukaddams) or such in groups of villages (Chaudhuris) Haveli Rohtas did not come under the settlement in 1789

Chausa Pargana.

The Revenue history of Chausa pargana has proceeded on different lines from the rest of the district. This pargana formed part of *Sarkar* Ghazipur in Akbar's time. The *Sarkar* was acquired

by Balwant Singh, the father of Chait Singh between 1740 and 177 and formed part of the great zamindari of Benaras, which fell to th company in 1775. The zamindari was left by the company wit Chait Singh until his rebellion in 1781. Thereafter it was resume and settled in farm with Raja Mahip Narain in 1783; but in 179 when the settlement was about to expire, the engagement made wa thrown away. In the following year the zamindars accepted ne settlement except *Taluqa* Indapur and these settlements were mad permanent.

In 1882 Mr. Dunsmure, the Collector of Shahabad to whic district, the *pargana* was annexed in 1818 revised the assessment (*Taluqa* Indapur and succeeded in bringing on to the Revenue ro considerable amount of the land which had escaped assessmen earlier.

After a very laborious research, Mr. Dunsmure was able t find the *pargana* Chausa to have been divided into 9 *tappas* contai ing in the aggregate 535 villages *asali* and *dakhili*.

In 1822, the demand from the permanently settled portion (Chausa Pargana was Rs. 40,548 and that for the rest was Rs. 23,65(The result of Dunsmure's settlement was that the latter was raise to Rs. 50,487. The bulk of settlement was accepted by th zamindars both in Indapur *Taluqa* and in the *"Wirani"* villages an it was proposed to make these permanent. Other portions were t be leased to farmers but they failed to keep their engagement and th estate became "*Khas*" again. In the end it was left as a temporal settlement for 10 years with those zamindars who accepted it, whi elsewhere the estates were taken in *Khas* management.

CONFISCATIONS IN 1857.

In 1857-58, 869 estates of rebels in the district were confiscate of which the most important was that of Babu Kuar Singh Jagdishpur, successors of Babu Bhup Narain of 1781. This result in a considerable increase in the revenue demand, an addition Rs. 1,75,000 having accrued from Jagdishpur estate alone By 18 the total demand went up to Rs. 15,81,241

Apart from the temporarily settled estates, there were 1 estates held direct by Government in 1908 with a rental Rs. 2,22,629. These included the ancient *Nizamut* area of Bux *Bazar* and fort, several estates purchased by Government in defa of bidders at Revenue sales, some alluvial accretions in the Gan and estates in the Bhabua subdivision confiscated on the outlay the zamindar Arimardan Singh in 1785.

BANSKATI MAHAL.

Among these estates the *Banskati Mahal* calls for special me tion. It is an exceptional and unique estate in a permanen settled district as Government does not possess any proprieta

rights in the land, but only incorporeal rights to certain spontaneous products, fuel, grass, minerals, etc The estate was in the Rohtas *pargana*, which was held in *Jagir* by Raja Shah Mal and his family from 1765 to 1812, as has been already described Raja Shah Mal imposed a duty on all wood, bamboos and other forest produce taken out of any part of the pargana When the estate was resumed and settled, Government retained the Rohtas plateau as its property together with the *Banskati Mahal* or the right which Shah Mal and Harbans Rai had exercised of collecting spontaneous products or of levying duties on them when collected by others The *mahal* was farmed out, except for a brief interval until 1885, but since that time it has been managed direct by the officers of Government

The right to levy *Banskati* dues extended over about two hundred square miles, and 108 villages were subject to them. The *mahal* was once conterminous with the whole of the Rohtas *pargana*; but various causes have reduced it to its present dimensions such as mismanagement for many years and the special exemption of different portions.

Thus for the twelve *mauzas* retained by Shah Mal's family in 1847, the Raja of Sonpura, owner of *mahal* Khandaul an estate covering over sixty square miles and containing 39 *mauzas* in the Sone Valley and the slopes beyond Rohtas, succeeded in obtaining an order from the Commissioner, declaring that the *mahal* was not subject to *Banskati* dues Lastly, Kachhuhar, an estate extending for over forty square miles on the plateau and the slopes north of the Akbarpur valley, which had been confiscated from Kuar Singh was also exempted in 1863 from the *Banskati Mahal* by virtue of revenue-free grant, which Government had made of the estate of Mr Bingham in recognition of the services rendered by him in the rising of 1857

Dues are levied in various ways Grazing fees are charged for the privilege of pasturage A yearly fee was paid by each person carrying the trade of lime kilns for each kiln of a separate size. Permit fees were levied on person entering the forests to collect produce and when products were collected for exportation, a duty calculated on the amount exported was levied at toll stations The list of duties is curious It included such entries as permit fees for collecting cocoons special fees for cutting wood by comb makers and carpenters, for Kharwars and inhabitants living near Koel, fees paid by shoe-makers and basket-makers for collecting bark and bamboo shoots and duties on catechu, *Mahua*, drift wood, mill stones etc The tariff was primitive but the duties were of great antiquity and were well understood

Mr Mylne's Estate

Among the temporarily settled estates after the 1857 confiscation, Mr Mylne's estate was the largest. Mr Earnest Mylne was one

[To] the partners of the late Mr. Burrows who between 1858 and 1861 [ob]tained settlement of a large area which had been confiscated from [Babu] Kuar Singh. This included a large area under jungle, which [the] lessee undertook to clear, for which a definite promise of resettle[ment] on the expiry of the lease in 1908 had been given. Even in [this] area the status of the lessee was doubtful, because the promise [of] resettlement gave only a right to such terms as might be in force for the settlement of Government *Khas Mahals*. There was a large area outside this jungle *mahal* (the *baharsi* villages), regarding which no promise of resettlement on the expiry of the original term had been made. On the expiry of the leases in 1908, Mr. Mylne was recognised as a temporarily settled proprietor, and a summary settlement was made by the Settlement Officer of south Bihar for a period of twenty years. The revenue on the basis of the assets, was then increased from Rs. 55,196 to Rs 77,070 while the effect of the settlement proceedings was to increase the proprietors rent roll from Rs 1,41,528 to Rs 1,54,141.

PERMANENT SETTLEMENT.

The following table shows the assessment of 1766 compared with that of the Decennial Settlement and with the assessment as it stood in 1815 and later in 1876, when the Statistical Account of the district was prepared. The *pargana* has now been abandoned as the revenue unit.

Sarkar	Parganas	Area in square miles according to Revenue Survey of 1844-45	Assessment of 1766 according to grant		Decennial Settlement Assessment, 1791	Revenue in 1815	Revenue in 1876
			Real	Net			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs
Rohtas	Rohtas	519	30,882	Nil	11,119	19,166	28,793
	Chainpur	1,028	96,161	3,04,975	2,05,517	2,94,914	2,29,968
	Sasaram	843	2,43,000		1,55,664	1,61,136	2,32,111
Shahabad	Bhojpur	424	1,73,220		1,38,120	1,42,771	1,62,008
	Bihea	231	1,25,000		1,22,766	1,40,663	1,47,681
	Piro	202	40,341		13,818	45,449	1,62,360
	Nonaur	107	33,691	6,09,266	22,919	22,146	1,05,743
	Arrah	268	1,46,663		1,25,902	1,65,856	2,62,735
	Danwar	336	1,36,304		45,534	5,847	78,409
	Dinarah	55	1,36,304		13,025	17,021	21,019
	Pawai	113	22,226		32,141	44,594	53,604
	Barahgaon	84	31,226		25,075	28,437	35,766
	TOTAL	4,202	10,79,214	10,04,241	10,30,639	11,34,003	16,18,197

PERMANENT SETTLEMENT, 1793.

More than half of the area of old *Sarkar* Shahabad was settled with the heads of the three great branches of the Rajput family which had for so long been predominant in this part of this district, namely, Raja Bikramajit Singh of Dumraon and his kinsmen, Bhupnarain Singh and Bhagwat Singh of Jagadishpur and Buxar respectively. There would have been justification for excluding Chowdhary Dhawal Singh from settlement but his past conduct was condoned and most of the *Diara* areas was settled with him.

In the south of the District, the ancient Rajput family which had originally ruled at Chainpur, had been ousted early in sixteenth century by the Pathans. The head of the family Raja Ari Mardan Singh of Bhagwanpur had been recognised as zamindar by Mohamad Raza Khan in 1766 The collateral relations of Ari Mardan Singh held small estates at Ramgarh and Jaitpure. These smaller zamindars obtained settlement in 1789 But the main estates had been confiscated in 1785 as Ari Mardan Singh had murdered a neighbour; the greater part of Chainpur was settled with smaller proprietors, while a part was held by Government as *khas*, forming the present Government estates in the Kaimur Hills in Bhabua subdivision. In the Sasaram Parganas, a Rajput named Pahalwan Singh had established himself in the first part of the eighteenth century in a manner much resembling that of Kamgar Khan in Hasua in Gaya district But the status of his descendants, Jagarnath Singh and Sonnout Singh, had been definitely recognised by the Patna Council They were admitted to the settlement of the villages in which their zamindari rights had been acknowledged. The rest of the pargana was settled with petty proprietors, collectors of rent in villages called *Mukaddams* and in groups of villages called *Chowdhuris* were appointed Haveli Rohtas did not come under the settlement in 1789

SURVEY AND SETTLEMENT OPERATIONS

Between 1844 and 1846, village boundaries were surveyed and a map on the scale of four inches to the mile was prepared by the revenue survey party. In 1863 Survey and Settlement proceedings were carried out under Act IX of 1848 in respect of the *diara* land of the Ganga Between 1873 and 1878 a cadastral survey was made of the land irrigable from the Sone canals In 1881—1883 a revenue survey was made under Act V of 1875 for the estates bordering on the Ganga Between 1901 and 1904 surveys were made and a record-of-rights under B T Act (Bengal Tenancy Act, 1885) was prepared for scattered areas, amounting in all to 17,757 acres. A record-of-rights for the rest of the district was prepared by the staff under the Settlement Officer, Bihar between 1908 and 1916.

ABOLITION OF ZAMINDARIS.

English notion of land ownership which resulted in introducing permanent settlement, was planted on the grounds of expediency in

sincere belief that it would be source of blessing here. But only 26 years later Lord Hastings observed in his Minute of 31st December 1819—"Never was there any measure conceived in a purer spirit of generous humanity and disinterested justice than the plan for the permanent settlement in the lower provinces. It was worthy of the soul of Cornwallis, yet his truly benevolent purpose fashioned with great care and deliberation, has, to our painful knowledge, subjected almost the whole of the lower classes throughout these provinces to the most grievous oppression, too, so guaranteed by our pledge that we are unable to relieve the sufferers". It was only after 66 years, i.e., in 1885 that the Bengal Tenancy Act was passed when some steps were taken to improve the condition of *Raiyats* and to relieve them of the oppression.

Relation between landlords and tenants

The relation between the landlords and the tenants during the thirties and the forties were not very good, rather strained. During the thirties and even in early twenties, the All-India Congress Committee had decided by resolutions that the zamindari system should be abolished. The tenants had started realizing their rights and interests and were no more to be kept oppressed. Kisan movement started on its peak throughout the district. The causes of the estrangement were firstly, rent being enhanced on the one hand and the rise in the prices of foodgrains on the other. The continued efforts of the *Kisan Sabha* helped much in the growth of the discontent. and also the oppressive tactics of some estates particularly the Dumraon estate, where *abwabs* of very severe types were realized ruthlessly.

In 1924-25 tension in certain villages of the Bhabua subdivision and the Dumraon estate in the Buxar subdivision due to commutation cases, was very high; but since then there was no report of any mishap during the twenties.

The discontent in the Dumraon estate was acute in 1931-32 due to the exaction of very high *salami*. The situation continued to be worsening year by year and by 1940-41 rose to its peak

During the forties, the relation was strained on the issue of *bakasht* lands, *bhauli* lands, *batai* lands and other similar issues

The landlords having known that the Congress Government was determined to abolish zamindari system, started dispossessing the tenants of the *bhauli* and *batai* lands. There was widespread agitation among the tenants on the issue of giving their share to the landlords of the produce of the *bhauli* lands There were several cases under section 40 of the Bihar Tenancy Act. There was the neglect of irrigation by the landlords and the *Kisan Sabha* and Communists were continuing their work exciting the *kisans*

ABWABS

Abwabs like *ghee, dahi* and fuel were exacted from the tenants in Dumraon estate at the time of festivals and other occasions like marriage and *Saradh* in the family of the zamindar. The estate realized at the rate of one pice per maund of grain sold by the raiyat. It also realized grazing charge on *Gairmazrua Am* lands. Several cases took place between the landlords and the tenants on the payment of *abwabs*. The *Karamcharis* of the zamindars were very oppressive in realizing *beyayi* (weighing tax) but they all ended in acquittal. There was a general complaint from the Buxar sub-division that the tax collecting staff of the zamindars levied a small charge of an anna at the time of collection.

RENT REDUCTION

The reduction of rent in the district of Shahabad was made under section 112A of B. T. Act (Bengal Tenancy Act) as inserted by the Bihar Tenancy Amendment Act, 1937 (Bihar Act 8 of 1937). The reduction was made on application being made on behalf of the tenants or the landlord or in some cases on the motion of the Collector. The power was conferred only on Deputy Collectors who exercised the power of the Collector for reduction of rents under B. T. Act on the grounds mentioned in several clauses of the aforesaid section by virtue of which all the rents of the occupancy holding enhanced under section 29 or under clause (*a*), (*b*) or (*d*) of section 30 between 1st of January, 1911 and 31st of December, 1936, were cancelled. Besides, the rent commuted under section 40 or by agreement between the tenants and the landlord of such holding between the period referred to before, was reduced to such an extent that the reduced rent could bear to the previous rent, the same proportion as the then amount prices bore to the average prices during the decennial period, immediately preceding the time when the rent was commuted. Under the two sections there were a large number of applications filed on behalf of the occupancy tenants and in the majority of these cases, rent reduction was made. There were some cases, but very few where partial or entire remission of rent was made of the holdings the soil of which deteriorated on account of the deposit of sand on the same or on account of the land going under water. Such cases were mostly in respect of the lands near the river Ganga or on the Sone. The landlord did contest the proceeding up to the Collector generally and in certain cases up to the Commissioner and the Board of Revenue, although the order of Collector in majority of cases remained final.

RENT COMMUTATION

During the course of last survey (1907—16) 4,613 applications were filed in the whole of the district and the area covered by the application allowed (3,411 applications) was 7.15 per cent of total area entered in the finally published records, as held by settled or

occupancy *raiyats* on produce rents. On general average throughout the district it was found that realization by landlords in produce rents, did not in all probability exceed Rs. 5-4-0 per acre. It was also found that the produce rent-paying lands throughout the district were distinctly inferior to the cash-rent lands of the district and landlords were awarded on the average a rent of 25 per cent larger than the average cash rents for these lands and commuted rents in South Shahabad were so favourably received by the landlords that some of them applied for commutation

But even after the major settlement operation which was completed in 1916, there remained in the district a good number of lands in which the landlords realized produce rent which varied from place to place and even from landlord to landlord, who in some cases realized produce rent arbitrarily To do away with this system, which was of the oppressive nature, section 40 (1) of the Bihar Tenancy Act was provided for both the *raiyats* and the landlords to apply to get the rent commuted, and this measure resulted in the commutation of a good number of lands having produce rents After the abolition of entire intermediaries in the district, tenants have been coming up with petition for commutation of the produce rents Instances are there that at the time of filing returns under Bihar Land Reforms Act, 1950, landlords fixed rents arbitrarily high against the tenants in such kinds of lands and all these cases are being tackled now by the revenue staff employed in zamindari work

BAKASHT DISPUTE

(*a*) The Bihar Act IX of 1938, i e, the Bihar Restoration of *Bakasht* Lands which received the assent of the Governor on 11th October, 1938 was passed to provide for the restoration to the former tenants of certain lands which were sold for arrear of rents between 1st of January 1929 and 31st of December, 1937 on account of the inability of the tenants to pay such arrears by reason of unprecedented fall in prices between the said dates

(*b*) Bakasht *Dispute Settlement Act*, 1947 (*Bihar Act XIII of* 1947).—The main feature of the Act is to refer any dispute regarding *Bakasht* lands which may be necessary for the maintenance of peace and order to a Board under Government Notification consisting of the Chairman, who shall be an independent person and two members representing the parties The duty of the Board is to bring about amicable settlement of the dispute or to decide the issue in case no amicable settlement is reached The opinion of the majority in case of disagreement is to prevail and the decision of the Board shall not be subject to any appeal or revision

The Congress had pledged itself to a set of agrarian reforms including abolition of zamindari as a step towards removal of tremendous inequalities in the society

Measures of land reforms have a special significance, both because they provide social, economic and institutional framework for agricultural development and because of the influence they exert on the life of the vast majority of the population. Indeed, their impact extends much beyond the rural economy. With the increase in population, growth of towns and industrial centres and improvement in incomes and standard of living, the internal demand for food is increasing in volume and becoming more diverse. The ambitious programmes for industrial development also depend largely upon the capacity of Indian agriculture to provide the surpluses needed and to meet steadily increasing claims both on raw materials and on food production.

Against the background of these complications, the objectives of land reform are twofold, firstly, to remove such impediments upon agricultural production as arise from the character of the agrarian structure, and secondly, to create conditions for evolving as speedily as possible an agrarian economy with high levels of efficiency and productivity. These aspects are inter-related. To achieve these major objectives of land reforms, came the abolition of intermediaries, tenancy reforms and ceiling on land, which are steps in right direction to stabilise the agrarian structure and reduce the disparities in land ownership. The steps taken by the Bihar Government towards the abolition of intermediaries were the passing of the Bihar State Management of Estates and Tenures Act, 1949 and the Abolition of Zamindaris Act of 1949. The former Act, i.e., the Bihar State Management of Estates and Tenures Act, 1949 which received the assent of the Governor-General on 29th September, 1949 was however not for the abolition of intermediaries but was an interim step in that direction by providing the estates and tenures to be passed over to the management of the State Government on proper notification of the same, in the *Bihar Gazette* as provided in the Act. But the Act, which was of the interim type, was declared *ultra vires* according to the Indian Constitution (1950) by the Patna High Court The Bihar State Acquisition of Zamindaris Bill was introduced in the State Legislative Assembly and was passed in 1948 It was then sent for the consideration of the Governor-General of India under the Government of India Act, 1935 The Bill was referred back for amending certain portion dealing with mineral rights The amended Bill was introduced and passed by the Bihar Legislatures in 1949 and after the Bill had received the assent of the Governor-General on 6th July 1949, it became an Act in the same year

The validity of the Act was challenged by certain landlords and the Patna High Court allowed some injunctions in the year 1950. Meanwhile it was felt that the Act did not have sufficient provisions for land reforms and it has also certain constitutional defects and hence it was decided to repeal it, which was later on done by the

Bihar Abolition of Zamindari Repealing Act of 1950. In the year 1950 it was decided to introduce another comprehensive Bill. Accordingly, the Bihar Land Reforms Bill was introduced which provided for making over management of estates to Gram Panchayats, if the Provincial Government so decided, and for formation of a Land Commission consisting of both officials and non-officials to advise the Government regarding the agrarian policy to be followed The Bill was passed by both the Houses of Bihar Legislatures in the year 1950 and it received the assent of the President on 11th September in 1950 and was declared as an Act. It came into force from 25th September, 1950

The validity of the Act was challenged in Patna High Court in 1950 which decided that the Act contravened Article 14 of the Constitution, and was, therefore, null and void The State Government considered the matter afresh in consultation with the Government of India, and it was thought that such an important issue of land reforms could not be delayed and that the constitution should be specifically amended so that such legislations could not be challenged in future Accordingly the Constitutional Amendment Bill was introduced in Union Parliament in 1951 by Prime Minister Nehru which *inter alia* provided for certain amendments of Article 31 of the Constitution.

The Bill was passed by Parliament and it received the assent of the President and was included in the Constitution The amending Act provided *inter alia* that the Bihar Land Reforms Act would not be deemed to be void or even to have been void on the ground that it took away any of the rights conferred by or any provisions of Part III, and notwithstanding any judgment, decree or order of any Court or tribunal to the contrary, the Act would continue in force

Some of the landlords challenged the validity of Parliament to amend the Constitution and the Supreme Court issued injunction against taking over the estates under the Bihar Land Reforms Act. The Supreme Court ultimately rejected the application of the landlords and decided that the constitutional amendment was valid.

Some landlords again took the matter to Supreme Court and got an injunction against taking possession of their estates under the Bihar Land Reforms Act, pending the decision of the Supreme Court regarding the validity of the Bihar Land Reforms Act. The Supreme Court held that the Act was a valid legislation, but three of the learned Judges held that the State would not have any claim on the arrear rents, and would not be entitled to make any deduction on account of works of benefit to the tenantry. It was after this decision that the implementation of the Act started in 1952 in Shahabad.

The following table will indicate the total number of estates in different categories and the total demand and receipt under them during the years 1924-25, 1929-30 1934-35, 1939-40, 1944-45 and 1949-50:—

Kinds of Estates	1924-25			1929-30			1934-35		
	Number	Demand	Receipt	Number	Demand	Receipt	Number	Demand	Receipt.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Rs a p	Rs		Rs a p	Rs		Rs. a p	Rs.
Permanently settled Estates	.			2,989	15,00,969 1 11		13,932	15,14,958 14 8	.
Permanently settled Estates (Revenue Free)				73[illegible] Cess	23,096 3 0		752 Cess	27,908 5 0	.
Temporarily settled Estates	528	1,72 828 10 9		530	1,76,063 3 7		559	1,75,959 1 7	
Government Estates									

Kinds of Estates	1939-40			1944-45			1949-50		
	Number	Demand	Receipt	Number	Demand	Receipt	Number	Demand	Receipt
1	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		Rs	Rs		Rs a p	Rs		Rs a p	Rs
Permanently settled Estates	14,944	15,19,255	4,92,735	14,357	15,17,951 9 2	15,13 711	14,431	15,19,387 14 6	14,84,633
Permanently settled Estates (Revenue Free)	789 Cess	2[illegible] 908 Cess	16,191	817 Cess	26,870 0 0	17,640	821 Cess	40 182 0 0	14,035
Temporarily Settled Estates	570	1,82,591	1 80,117	573	1,75,922 4 8	1,67 631	572	1,75,299 7 1	1,46,523
Government Estates	75	1 89,533	1,05,273	79	1,76,401 0 0	1,63 909	8[illegible]	1,96,993 0 0	1,70,865

OPERATION OF THE ACT.

In the first phase of zamindari abolition all the estates having an income of Rs. 50,000 and above per year, were taken over. The following statement shows the number of estates taken over year by year:—

1952	.. .. ..	14 estates
1953		4 ,,
1954	. . .	115 ,,
1955		766 .

Since 1st January, 1956 there has been a complete abolition of intermediaries and all intermediary rights vested in the State About 14,000 *tauzis* have been taken over as a consequence thereof Originally 50,797 returns were filed which after amalgamation land lordwise came down to 26,272 cases involving approximately 70,028 intermediaries including co-sharers

The following statement shows the payment of *ad-interim* amount and annuity to the institutions in the past years —

		Rs	a	p
1953-54	. .	3,716	0	0
1954-55		1,99,417	11	0
1955-56		1,76,338	12	0
1956-57	.	9,45,175	5	9
1957-58		Not available		
1958-59		Ditto		
1959-60		Ditto		
1960-61		Ditto		

Government have sanctioned the payment of *ad-interim* amount as a relief to the landlords, and this has been distributed as below —

		Rs	a	p
Arrah Subdivision	. .	1,97,651	13	9
Buxar Subdivision	.	1,55,000	0	0
Sasaram Subdivision		2,30,000	0	0
Bhabua Subdivision	..	1,85 500	0	0
Additional Collector's account	.	1,31,848	2	3
TOTAL		9,00,000	0	0

This *ad-interim* payment had been continued after 1957 also.

ORGANISATION OF LAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Before the Survey and Settlement Operations of Mr. Hubback in 1916, the Revenue Administration of the district was done on the old pattern of Moghal Administration, that is, *parganawise*, but since 1916 the Revenue Administration of the district was totally changed and new arrangements were made in the administrative units for better management and control. Under the new scheme the district was divided into 11 Revenue *thanas*, each of these having a certain number of villages and each village in term having its area and revenue rolls of the *thanas* formed the total revenue area of the district.

The following table indicates the administrative pattern of the district for revenue purposes up to 1949-50 –

Subdivision	Revenue thanas	Total number of villages	Area in acres	Revenue collection in rupees	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Arrah (Sadar)	Arrah	446	2,18,967	9,652	
	Piro	449	2,02,266	6,166	
	Shahpore ..	297	1,47,782	3,379	
				55,165	Mr Mylne's Estates in Piro and Shahpore
Buxar	Buxar	614	1,93,412	81,556	
	Dumraon	470	2,01,928	4,265	
Sasaram	Sasaram	704	4,37,715	9,992	
	Dehri	180	1,06,690	10,739	
	Bikramgunj	693	2,33,542	3,001	
	Karghar ..	502	1,69,553	12,465	
Bhabua	Bhabua	1,038	5,82,725	361	
	Mohania	677	2,46,732	9,824	

The following figures indicate the number of Estates of different categories and receipt in 1949-50 under them:—

Kinds of Estate.	Number.	Receipt. Rs.	a.	p.
1. Permanently settled Estates	14,431	14,84,633	0	0
2. Permanently settled Estates (Revenue Free).	821	Nil		
3. Temporarily settled Estates	572	1,46,523	0	0
4. Government Estates ..	86	1,70,865	0	0

The following figures indicate the Cess receipt of the district in 1949-50:—

Kinds of Estate.	Number.	Receipt. Rs. a. p.
1. Permanently settled Estates	23,723	9,24,473 0 0
2. Permanently settled Estates (Revenue Free).	821	38,660 0 0
3. Temporarily settled Estates	Included in item no. 1.	
4. Government Estates	Included in item no. 1.	

After the abolition of the zamindaris under the Land Reforms Act of 1950, the district has now been divided into 41 *Anchals* and 410 *Halkas* for the purpose of land reforms administration. There are as many as 15,467 revenue paying and 464 revenue free *tauzis*. Prior to the confiscation of estates, the average annual receipt from land revenue was Rs. 18,92,070 and from Cess Rs. 12,88,010. With the complete abolition of the zamindaris, the average annual income is expected to be about Rs. 1,00,00,000.

The Collector is the head of the District Revenue Administration. He is assisted by the Additional Collector and Deputy Collector Incharge Land Reforms and Development, Arrah, Deputy Collector, Incharge Land Reforms and Development, Buxar, Deputy Collector, Incharge Land Reforms and Development, Sasaram and Subdivisional Officer, Bhabua. Besides there are a number of Sub-Deputy Collectors for Land Revenue Administration.

There is one *Karamchari* in each *Halka* assisted by a Tahsil peon. There is one Inspector in each *Anchal* assisted by a Chainman. It has been planned by Government that each *Anchal* would be under an *Anchal Adhikari*, but at present all the 41 *Anchals* are managed by only 10 Circle Officers and 13 Block Development Officers-*cum*-Anchal Adhikaris For each Circle Officer and *Anchal Adhikari* a staff consisting of two Upper Division and two Lower Division Clerks have been sanctioned. They have also been given an *Amin*. Recently the *Anchal Adhikaris* have been sanctioned and provided with additional clerks on the basis of 300 cases per clerk for dealing with the returns and *ad-interim* payment to the ex-intermediaries. In each of the Sadar, Buxar and Sasaram subdivisions, there is a Deputy Collector Incharge of Land Reforms and Development, who looks after the Development, Land Reforms and other allied matters. They have been provided with a staff consisting of one Upper Division and one Lower Division Clerks. They have also been given extra clerical hands to deal with cases of rent fixation and other similar matters.

Besides the abovementioned staff there is staff for waste land reclamation work and there are one Survey Inspector and 30 *Amins* on a temporary basis for *Bal Panchat* operations in the *diara* areas. The Circle Officers have also been given the necessary staff.

There is also Agricultural Statistics Department under District Supervisor who works on the district level subject to the control of Additional Collector His work is to look after the statistical work of the district and to see that the reports and returns of the crop statistics, which assumed so much importance in planning, are submitted in time In office work he is assisted by one Computer Clerk Formerly when there were a few Circles under each Circle Inspector, the District Supervisor and his office had to deal with lesser number of returns. But now when the district has been divided into 41 blocks, the District Supervisor has to compile reports and returns of 41 *Anchals* and so the question of desirability of posting one clerk more is under consideration

Under the Second Five-Year Plan, a Gazetted Officer styled as District Statistical Officer was posted in each district who will be responsible for all statistical work of the district Besides a Junior Statistical Assistant is being attached to each National Extension Service Block to look to the statistical work in the Block

The following table indicates the details of the *Anchals* in the district —

Serial no	Name of Anchal	Area in square miles	No of villages	Population as per 1961 census	No of *Gram Panchayat* units	Current demand including Rent Cess, Education Cess and Miscellaneous (in rupees)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	SADAR SUBDIVISION					
1	Arrah	63 4	130	1,51,714	20	2 24 484 41
2	Udwantnagar	66 3	77	61 279	17	2,01 907 31
3	Koilwar	65 3	73	71 300	19	1,89 555 78
4	Barhara	86 4	71	[illegible]	22	2,60 076 96
5	Sandesh	72 1	89	[illegible]	16	1,93,368 07
6	Piro	84 3	112	1,03,081	27	3,29 567 59
7	Charpokhari	54 0	110	53 084	16	1,81 405 52
8	Tarari	77 6	115	77 409	21	2 37,174.75
9	Sahar	100 1	112	95,555	23	3,04,447.73
10	Shahpur	58 5	93	90,732	19	3,36 969 66
11	Bihiya	54 1	99	58 357	21	1,32,144.54
12	Jagdishpur	[illegible]	108	1,18,121	23	3,91,964 09
	TOTAL	889 3	1,189	10,31,645	245	[illegible]

1	2		3	4	5	6	7
	BUXAR SUBDIVISION.						
1	Buxar	..	80 8	165	1,05,095	17	2,21,659.56
2	Itarhi	.	88.3	166	60,618	17	1,57,322.99
3	Rajpur	..	133.1	283	96,591	24	3,15,070.77
4	Semri	..	64.9	146	98,625	21	2,93,725.75
5	Dumraon	..	97.3	118	1,11,186	22	2 20,886 43
6	Brahampur	..	75 1	104	95,080	22	3,29,406 62
7	Nawanagar	..	83.1	122	77,793	20	1,99,574.67
	TOTAL	..	622.6	1,104	6,35,988	143	17.37,646.79
	BHABUA SUBDIVISION.						
1	Durgawati	..	64 7	108	47,248	17	1,55,782 72
2	Ramgarh	..	138 1	232	87,682	24	2,49 338 90
3	Mohania	.	111 2	209	71,252	20	2,72,236 66
4	Kudra	.	81 7	128	49,355	13	1,89,314 60
5	Chand	.	79 7	137	45,576	20	2,27,933 66
6	Chainpur		175 5	177	61,517	17	2,12,668 88
7	Bhabua		129.3	320	93,857	25	3,90,562 58
8	Bhagwanpur	.	162.7	273	58,276	19	2 01,996 72
9	Adhaura	..	386 5	131	16,985	12	23,735 44
	TOTAL	..	1,299 4	1,715	5,31,748	167	19,23,569.56
	SASARAM SUBDIVISION.						
1	Karakat	.	78 6	150	89,749	21	2,33,665 64
2	Bikramganj	..	79 3	149	83,647	21	2,16,611.74
3	Dinara		146.0	277	96,292	24	3,34,268 68
4	Dawath	.	63 1	117	71,914	17	1,40,882.72
5	Dehri	..	89 6	102	1,21,197	20	2,03 436 08
6	Nasriganj	..	75 9	87	78,813	20	1,72,496.34
7	Kargahar	.	185 8	385	1,00,772	29	4,16,967 47
8	Nokha		79 2	117	77,902	17	2,43,254.09
9	Sheosagar	.	127 9	199	58,898	18	2,34,091.16
10	Sasaram		160 5	223	1,25 306	26	2,14 534 30
11	Chenari		94.1	155	41,644	18	1,31,936 87
12	Rohtas	..	149 6	69	39,230	14	86,927 95
13	Nauhatta	..	152.5	68	34,672	12	74,804 68
	TOTAL	.	1,481.0	2,088	10,18,636	257	27,38,877 72

POST-ZAMINDARI ABOLITION MEASURES.

Field Bujharat.

Out of 6,096 villages in the district field *bujharat* had been completed in 5,390 villages up to April, 1957. This is a short-cut survey operation and helps in preparation of record-of-rights and up-to-dating the same and also in finding out waste lands for the purpose of settlement with Harijans and others.

Balpanchat operation.

After complete abolition of zamindaris, there are now 483 villages in the *diara* areas, in which *balpanchat* has got to be done.

There being innumerable difficulties in realizing rent ... areas, Government sanctioned that the survey should be ... and Survey and Settlement operations are now on (1966).

The following categories of land are in direct possession ... landlords.—

(*a*) Landlord's (Private) lands

(*b*) *Raiyati* land in temporary possession of landlords (*Bakasht* lands).

(*c*) Village waste lands.

Landlord's private lands include *zirat, sir, nij-jote, kamat*, etc. No right of occupancy accrues, when any such land is held under a lease for a term of years or under a lease from year to year. Under the Bihar Land Reforms Act, these lands have become h... *raiyati* lands subject to payment by him of fair and equitable rent to be assessed thereupon.

Bakasht *lands*

The lands of the category (*b*) are known as *bakasht* lands. These belonged originally to *raiyats*, which came in the possession of landlords by sale of the *raiyats'* holding for arrear of rents, surrender or abandonment. The village *raiyats* have preferential claim to settlement of lands of this category. A settled *raiyat* gets occupancy rights on such lands as soon as the same are held by him. In any area, where the Bihar Tenancy Act prevails, any one whether a settled *raiyat* or not with whom such a land is settled, gets a right of occupancy therein, where the total acreage exceeds 40 acres. Such lands become the *raiyati* lands of the landlord on acquisition of his intermediary interests under the Bihar Land Reforms Act, subject of course to payment of such rent as is assessed thereon.

Gairmazrua Khas *lands*

The village waste lands known as *gairmazrua khas, parti*, etc. remain at the disposal of the landlord, who may cultivate it himself or settle it with others. Where such lands are used for agricultural or horticultural purposes, being in *khas* possession they acquire the status of being *bakasht* lands and become *raiyati* land on acquisition of the landlords interest.

Gairmazrua Am.

In every village, there are some lands left to the use of the village community as a whole, mainly for grazing purposes. Such lands may be used as *rasta*, cremation ground, etc. and are called *gairmazrua am*. These also belong to the landlord technically, but he cannot settle them with anyone for any purpose.

Management of cultivated lands

Bihar Emergency Cultivation and Irrigation Act, 1955 provides that on account of the inability or negligence of the occupier to cultivate the same, it may be settled by the Collector with any other

person he deems fit, for a period of one year only from the 15th June to the next 15th June. For the period, the persons, who are in cultivating possession of the land, are required to pay to the occupier the rent, thereof, payable to the landlord.

The Bihar Waste Land Reclamation and Cultivation Improvement Act, 1946 empowers the Collector to take temporary possession of any waste land, with a view to bringing it under cultivation. The period of such reclamation cannot exceed ten years and the Collector is required to retain the land in *Khas* possession and to make arrangements for its reclamation, cultivation and improvement.

Government have decided to introduce the Consolidation of Holdings and Prevention of Fragmentation Bill in order to check the rapid fragmentation of the land holdings and to consolidate the fragmented land pieces for an extensive and intensive cultivation The Bill received the President's assent on the 6th September, 1956 and was published in the *Bihar Gazette* on 10th October, 1956

Government have introduced another Bill, called Bihar Agricultural Land Ceiling and Management Bill in 1955, which has been considered by the State Legislature and has been submitted to a Select Committee. This Bill intends to fix the ceilings on land

LAND TENURES.

Before the Zamindari abolition period, there were certain intermediate tenure-holders in the district between the proprietor (who held his estate from Government) and the actual cultivator. The most common tenure as reported in the old Gazetteer, is that of the *zarpeshgi thikadar.* The *zarpeshgidar* pays a certain sum to the proprietor, in consideration of which, he is entitled to collect rent from the cultivator for a term of few years, a portion of the annual collections being credited towards liquidation of the *zarpeshgi* debts, where the contract is of this nature The tenure ends with the lease but when the *zarpeshgi* money is so high that the whole profit from the collection is absorbed by the interest on the original advance, the lease is definitely a usufructuary mortgage, and it continues till the proprietor can obtain the means of reducing it. The lease was also common whereby the proprietor leased the village or villages to the tenure holders who might or might not have paid premium of *nazrana* on entry

The *thikadar* collected the rent from the *raiyats* and paid a certain sum annually to the landlord, who thereby avoided the trouble of collecting the rent himself. There is always a condition in such lease that the lessee shall have no power to create permanent tenures, but such a condition can hardly bar the acquisition of permanent rights by a settled *raiyat,* who has taken in good faith the land, which happened to be abandoned during the pendency of the lease.

The *thikadar* tried to settle with his relations land of this nature, and also proprietor's private land, and disputes arising from these transactions gave much work to the Civil Courts.

Another more dignified form of tenure was *Mukarrari* which was less common than the temporary tenures. It is a grant at a fixed rent which may be permanent and heritable (*istmrari mukarrari*) or a grant for life (*hinhayati mukarrari*). Considerable grants of *istmrari* and *hinhayati* have been made by the zamindars of this district from time to time.

Guzastadars

Guzastadars were *raiyats* at fixed rates and enjoyed permanent tenures. They held, as the old Gazetteer reports, 28¼ per cent of the occupied areas in the two northern subdivisions. These *raiyats*, as have been estimated, were originally village *maliks*, but the distinguishing mark of a *malik* is his right to *malikana* of which we find no trace here. The name by which they were commonly known, appeared at first sight to lend plausibility to a theory, that they are descendants of some kind of military *jagirdars*, but they did not, before the permanent settlement, hold at privileged rates. Mr. Hubback thinks that the term *Guzastadar* merely implies that the *raiyats* have occupied their holdings from time anterior to the Permanent Settlement.

The *Guzastadars* are evidently representatives of *Khudkasta raiyats* of the 18th century, who have been successful in preserving their rights up till now (before zamindari abolition). Dr. Buchanan remarks that the Judge at Arrah had decided before 1812 that their rents could not be enhanced on the expiry of the term, for which *pattas* had been granted under the permanent settlement. This might have accounted for the survival of their rights. The subject of the treatment of claims of the *raiyats* to be *Guzastadars* in the sense of the *raiyats* at fixed rents took a large portion of time of the Attestation Officer during the last survey. Such *raiyats* said that their rents had never been or could not be altered by their landlords. Mr. Philip, the Assistant Settlement Officer incharge, after a careful enquiry, held that roughly speaking the tract in which the *Guzastadars* held its full meaning was that which lay north of East Indian Railway main lines. In the case, Mr. Murphy, the then Settlement Officer issued instruction to the effect that *Guzastadars* were to be given the status of *"Sharch Muayan"* which is the vernacular phrase used in Bihar to denote fixed rent holdings within the meaning of Bengal Tenancy Act, and accordingly a circular was issued by the Settlement Officer that all *raiyats* who claimed to have *Guzastadar*-holding should be recorded as *"Shareh Muayan"* unless the landlords could prove that the rent of the holdings had ever been enhanced or had been converted from *Bhauli* to *Nagdi* or that holdings had been created from the date of the permanent settlement

It will appear accordingly that *raiyats* generally claimed that one of the incidence of *Guzastadar* tenancy was a right to hold lands at fixed rents. As regards the boundary of the true *Guzasta* area it was found that true *Guzasta* tenancies existed in Bikramganj and Piro while in Buxar, Dumraon and Shahpur the area covered was to be mainly north of Eastern Railway main lines

Besides the passing of Land Reforms Act, 1950, a number of other measures have also been taken with a view to secure the rights of tenants of scheduled castes and under-*raiyats* The Bihar Tenancy (Amendment) Act, 1955 (Bihar Act XIX of 1955) and the Bihar Tenancy (Second Amendment) Act, 1955 (Bihar Act XXIV of 1955) were passed in the Bihar Legislative Assembly and were assented to by the Governor on the 2nd November, 1955 and the 22nd November, 1955 respectively

Salient provisions in the first Act, i e, Bihar Tenancy (Amendment) Act, 1955 (Bihar Act XIX of 1955) are as below.—

(1) The financial year beginning from 1st day of April was taken as an agricultural year to facilitate collections of land revenue and its accounting as in the matter of collection of other Government dues.

(2) For the words "ABORIGINALS" in the heading of the Chapter VIIA of the Bihar Tenancy Act which dealt on the restriction on alienation of land by aboriginals, the words "protected tenants" were substituted so as to include scheduled tribes, scheduled castes and backward classes

(3) Settlement of waste lands belonging to the State Government was henceafter required to be made by a *patta*.

(4) With a view to see that the waste land settled is brought under cultivation, it has been laid down in the Act that in the event of any land not being brought under cultivation within a period of five years from the date of settlement or the land being alienated in contravention of the provision, it shall be open to the Collector of the District to set aside the settlement and to make re-settlement of the land.

Salient provisions of the second amendment of the Tenancy Act (Bihar Act XXIV of 1955)· which was brought only with a view to safeguard the rights and interest of under-*raiyats* are as below.—

(1) A limit to the extent of not exceeding 7|20th of the produce of the land has been fixed as produce rent to be recoverable from under-*raiyats*.

(2) Restrictions on payment of certain kinds of rent by an under-*raiyat* such as *danabandi, manhunda, mankhat* or *chaurahi* under which fixed rent in kind is payable, have been put on.

(3) An important feature of the amendment is the power provided in the Act to restore possession of under-*raiyats* unlawfully ejected. The Collector has been empowered to take *suo moto* action under section 48 (E) of the Act.

BHOODAN.

The District Bhoodan Movement was started in 1952 and accordingly a District Bhoodan Committee was formed Till 1956 there were 2,260 donators in the district and 82,063.64¼ acres of land have been donated in the *Bhoodan Yagna*

The following table shows the details of the lands —

Subdivision	Thana (police station)	Donors	Acres of land.	
Sadar (Arrah) .	Jagdishpur	145	229 acres	1½ decimals
	Sandes	97	100 ,,	73 ,,
Sasaram	Dehri	344	223 ,,	18¼ ,,
	Nokha	22	7 ,,	8¼ ,,
	Bikramganj	94	216 ,,	5¼ ,,
	Nasriganj	46	47 ,,	17¼ ,,
	Rohtas	460	32,469 ,,	87½ ,,
	Choneri	391	6,092 ,,	4 ,,
	Sasaram	474	42,330 ,,	5¼ ,,
	Karghar	98	76 ,,	91 ,,
Bhabua	Kudra ..	89	270 ,,	18 ,,
Buxar	Buxar	143	521	6 ,,

According to orders of Government passed in 1956, the Bihar Bhoodan Yagna Committee will file *Danpatras* containing full particulars of lands donated as early as possible, and give all possible assistance to Revenue Officers in disposal of the proceedings under the said Act The Committee or its representative should remain in constant touch with Revenue Officers and make available to them all relevant papers promptly and render full co-operation in the abovementioned matters so that the cases may be disposed of quickly The above table indicates that in the Sasaram subdivision the gifts have been the largest, more than 90 per cent of the total land donated, only 599 acres donated in other subdivisions.

SURVEY AND SETTLEMENT OPERATIONS

The last survey and settlement operations in the district were conducted from 1907 to 1916 They covered the entire district except—

(i) the area included in the administrative district of Shahabad lying between the southern high bank of the Ganga,

(*ii*) area for which a record of rights had already been prepared under Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act, and

(*iii*) congested urban area in Arrah, Dumraon, Buxar and Sasaram municipalities According to the last survey the district consisted of 6,018 villages covering 4,232.38 square miles. The total number of L.S plots was 37,18,123 and the *khatians* 6,83,586. The number of plots per square mile was 878 and that of plots per *khatian* was 5 43. It is interesting to note that the average size of plot in last survey was 73 acre and the average size of holding 5 43 acres The total number of *khanapuri* disputes instituted during last survey was 1,17,964, the number of disputes per square mile being 28 The total number of objections filed was 1,14,857, the number of objections per square mile being 27. There were 5,67,560 *raiyati* holdings in the district in last survey and during the last settlement operations fair rents of 51,906 holdings were settled The total net cost of last survey and settlement operations was Rs 14,78,584

At the time of last survey the principal crops in the district were rice, wheat and gram Out of a total net cropped area of 17,45,810 acres, 7,31,806 acres had at least one source of irrigation. The most important source of irrigation was Government canals which covered 22 28 per cent of net cropped area

The following statement shows the manner in which the land of the district was held in the last survey —

Serial no	Name of status.	No of holdings	Percentage of total number of holdings	Area	Percentage of total occupied area.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Zirat	320	0 00	3,008	0 16
2	Held by proprietor but not zirat .	25,341	4.06	2,12,082	11.57
3	In cultivating possession of tenure-holder	9,622	1 52	79,467	4 34
4	Raiyats at fixed rent or rates ..	97,524	15 36	2,50,213	13.66
5	Settled or occupancy raiyats	4,64,919	73 18	12,36,476	67.49
6	Non-occupancy raiyats ..	5 117	.81	16,332	0.90
7	Rent-free holders ..	32,506	5.13	34,534	1.88

The following statement shows the position regarding cash rent in last survey —

Name of thana.	Raiyats at fixed rent: Total area	Raiyats at fixed rent: Total rent	Raiyats at fixed rent: Average per acre.	Occupancy and settled raiyats: Total area	Occupancy and settled raiyats: Total rent	Occupancy and settled raiyats: Average per acre	Non-occupancy raiyats: Total area	Non-occupancy raiyats: Total rent	Non-occupancy raiyats: Average per acre.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Acres	Rs	Rs. a. p.	Acres	Rs	Rs a p	Acres	Rs	Rs. a. p.
BUXAR SUBDIVISION									
Buxar	39,107	1,28,537	3 4 7	79,286	2,81,890	3 8 11	1,454	5,404	3 11 6
Dumraon	60,565	2,12,436	3 8 1	90,518	3,51,884	3 14 3	1,232	4,811	3 14 6
TOTAL	99,672	3 40,973	3 6 1	1,69 804	6,33,774	3 11 10	2,686	10,215	3 13 0
SADAR SUBDIVISION.									
Arrah	81,981	4,18,792	4 14 10	66 543	3,07,541	4 9 11	304	2,670	8 12 6
Piro	3 918	19,624	5 0 2	1,33,411	6,8[illegible]32	5 2 4	72	297	4 2 0
Shahpur	47,621	1,97,274	4 2 3	65,075	3,10,296	5 12 4	720	2,200	3 0 10
TOTAL	1,36,520	6,35,690	4 10 0	2,6[illegible],029	13,04,569	4 14 9	1,096	5,167	4 11 5
SASARAM SUBDIVISION.									
Bikramganj	3,288	11,027	3 5 8	1,51,340	6 00,027	3 15 6	1,436	3,621	2 8 4
Kargahar	2,482	6,432	2 9 6	69,021	2,46,248	3 9 1	835	2,089	2 8 0
Sasaram	212	474	2 3 9	73,791	2,62,435	3 8 1	1,615	3,442	2 2 1
Dehri	717	3,553	4 15 3	48,344	2,08,775	4 5 1	477	1,838	3 13 9
TOTAL	6,699	21,486	3 3 4	3,42,496	13,17 485	3 10 8	4,363	10,990	2 8 4
BHABUA SUBDIVISION									
Bhabua	1,988	5,527	2 12 6	1,01,510	4,04,606	3 15 9	2,839	11,281	3 15 7
Mohania	5,334	16,048	3 0 2	1,01,787	3,26,013	3 [illegible] 3	2,384	5,836	2 7 2
TOTAL	7,322	21,575	2 15 1	2,03,297	7,30,619	3 9 6	5,223	17,117	3 4 5
GRAND TOTAL	2,50,213	10 19.724	4 1 2	9,80,826	39,86,447	4 1 0	13,368	43,489	3 4 0
Bhabua Hill villages	Nil	Nil	Nil	14,596	14.316	0 15 8	295	240	0 13 0

Name of thana	Total of all classes of raiyats. Total area.	Total rent.	Average per acre	Under raiyats Total area	Total rent.	Average per acre	Remarks.
1	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Acres.	Rs.	Rs a. p	Acres.	Rs	Rs a p.	
BUXAR SUBDIVISION							
Buxar	1 19,848	4 15,831	3 7 6	588	3,099	5 4 5	
Dumraon	1,52,315	5,69,131	3 11 9	2,338	13,028	5 9 2	
TOTAL	2,72,163	9,84,962	3 9 11	2,936	16,127	5 8 3	
SADAR SUBDIVISION.							
Arrah	1,31,828	7,28,993	4 12 10	894	10,114	11 4 1	
Piro	1,27,401	7,06,653	5 2 3	381	1,951	5 2 0	
Shahpur	1,13,416	5,09,770	4 8 0	1,652	11,246	6 12 11	
TOTAL	4,02,645	19,45,416	4 13 4	2,927	23,311	7 15 7	
SASARAM SUBDIVISION.							
Bikramganj	1,56 061	6,14,675	3 15 0	886	4,044	4 9 0	
Kargahar	72,337	2 54,770	3 8 4	918	3,127	3 6 6	
Sasaram	75,619	2 56,351	3 8 5	564	1,999	3 3 8	
Dehri	49,537	2,14,166	4 5 3	238	1 090	4 9 6	
TOTAL	3,53,557	13,49,962	3 13 1	2,606	10,260	3 15 0	
BHABUA SUBDIVISION							
Bhabua	1,06,336	4,21,414	3 15 6	1,208	4,833	4 0 0	
Mohania	1,09,505	3,47,897	3 3 0	1,162	4,522	3 14 3	
TOTAL	2,15,841	7,69,311	3 9 0	2,370	9,355	3 15 2	
GRAND TOTAL	12 44,206	50,49,651	4 0 10	10,829	59,953	5 7 3	
Bhabua Hill villages	14,391	14,556	0 15 8	332	356	1 1 0	

In the last survey the most important question which shadowed all other attestation problems was the treatment of claims of raiyats to be *gujashtadars* in the sense of raiyats at fixed rent. There was uproar in the district over the circular of Mr. Phillip, I.C.S., on the interpretation of *gujashta* tenancies. On account of the agitation in the district the original circular of Mr Phillip was modified and the landlords who might have been prejudiced by its application were permitted to file free of cost objections under section 103A of B. T. Act.

EFFECTS OF LAST SURVEY AND SETTLEMENT OPERATION.

The Survey and Settlement Operations created a very considerable amount of unrest but in the district of Shahabad the operation was accepted and most welcomed The opinions of the Judiciary on the value of the record of-rights are of first class importance as they see far more record-of-rights after it is finally published than any other officer and the then District Judge Mr T S Mcpherson wrote in the year 1915 about the effect on crime of violence. "It is remarkable that in the district of Shahabad there should have been only one session trial on charges of rioting with culpable homicide and it would seem that the record-of-rights which had been finally published throughout the non-*diara* area of the district and the absence in jail of certain notorious *diara maliks* have brought unaccustomed peace to the district"

In his annual report of Civil Justice, the same District Judge wrote on increase of civil litigation

"The pressure of work experienced in the Civil Court of Shahabad in 1913 14 as the alternate of Survey and Settlement operations, did not sensibly diminish in the year under report. Though the pending file at the end of the year seems high it includes large number of rent suits which will be decided *ex parte* and it is possible to say that though for some year the new institution will be heavy, the file will tax the energy of the district staff to the utmost, the worst is over and there are signs that the flood of litigation is tending to subside and certainly the proportion of rent suit in which a strenuous contest is to be expedited, is diminishing"

It will thus appear that in the two observations of Mr Mcpherson the effects of Survey and Settlement Operation have been fully explained.

The Revisional Survey and Settlement Operations in the district of Shahábad were initially started as minor operations covering 671 villages, some falling under the category of temporarily settled estates resumed by the Government and the others lying in the *diara* belt of the rivers Ganga and Sone. There were also 10 villages in the Dumraon Revenue Thana which formed part of what was known as Nirmal Kumar Jain's Estate and those 10 villages

had never before been surveyed cadastrally It was, therefore, thought necessary that all those 671 villages be surveyed first in order to ensure correct *jamabandis* and rent collection and secondly, in order to settle land disputes which were rampant in *diara* area.

Due to alluvial and diluvial action certain villages of Uttar Pradesh emerge almost every year on the side of Shahabad and conversely. The Deep Stream verification is no doubt conducted by or on behalf of the Collector of Shahabad and his counterpart in Ballia (Uttar Pradesh) every year after the recession of the floods, but after 1946 or 1947 there has practically been no exchange of Revenue Rolls of the villages that were affected by the riparian action of the river Ganga The collection of rent or revenue was not therefore put on any clear or stable footing

Accordingly, the Government in the Revenue Department through letter no. 4148-LR, dated 24th September, 1953 communicated their decision to undertake survey operations under Regulation VII of 1822, of *diara* areas, which had vested in the State by the operation of the B L R Act The Collector of Shahabad sent a proposal in his letter no 869-LR, dated 1st March 1954 for survey of the *diara* area at an estimated cost of Rs 1,11,449 It was subsequently felt that the scope of the survey had to be extended to cover the villages of the temporarily settled estates but resumed by the Government and also the villages of Nirmal Kumar Jain's estate and the Collector of Shahabad sent revised proposal in his letter no 627-LR, dated 8th January, 1955 for surveying 671 villages The Collector of Shahabad justified the proposal on the ground that as a result of the Revisional Survey and Settlement Operations, the *jama* may be expected to increase by 10 per cent although he pointed out that it was very difficult at that stage to estimate correctly the extent of increase in the *jama* The proposal of the Collector of Shahabad was endorsed by the Commissioner, Patna and was recommended by the Board to the Government in Board's letter no. 17-50|55-61, dated 30th July, 1955 Although the Collector recommended that survey should be taken up under Regulation 7 of 1822. the Board had hinted that the operations may be taken up under section 101 of B T. Act The Government, however, decided that the Revisional Survey of 671 villages should be taken up under Regulation 7 of 1822 read with Regulation 9 of 1825 and communicated their sanction through Revenue Department Memo. no A|S-101|58-338-R, dated 12th January, 1959 at an estimated cost of Rs. 2,93,250.

The minor Settlement Operations were placed in charge of Shri S K. Bose, Charge Officer, working under the general control and supervision of the Collector of Shahabad Further the survey of 331 villages out of the proposed 671 villages was notified under Regulation 7 of 1822 read with Regulation 9 of 1825 by the Government of Bihar in exercise of the powers vested in him under section 3 of the Bengal Survey Act V of 1875.

One *khanapuri* circle was set up in the year 1959 and 209 villages were surveyed. Again under the aegis of the Minor Settlement Operations three more circles were set up in the season 1959-60 and 385 villages were surveyed and *khanapuri* records were prepared. Since most of the villages which had been notified for survey under Regulation 7 of 1822, had previously been surveyed cadastrally in the course of the last Settlement Operations from 1907—16, the Collector of Shahabad asked for permission that the villages should be surveyed under the provisions of Bihar Tenancy Act instead of under the Regulation and also that those villages should be surveyed on blue-print maps instead of on the original square sheets supplied by the Traverse Party with new traverse station located on them. Accordingly, a revised notification was issued in Revenue Department notification no. A|S 105|59-6477-R, dated 23rd July 1960. Wherever possible, the survey was conducted on blue-print maps Where survey had already been done on original square sheets furnished by Traverse Party, adequate precaution was taken for proper *sarhad milan.*

In the year 1960 the Government also considered the desirability of converting the Minor Settlement Operations into Major Settlement Operations covering the entire district of Shahabad and decided in favour of it. Necessary notification under section 101 of B T. Act, 1885, was published under the Revenue Department memo. no. A|S-105|60—9136-R, dated 10th October, 1960 By this notification the Governor of Bihar ordered that survey be made and record-of-rights prepared in respect of the land including railway and Government lands comprised within the external boundaries of the villages included in the revenue thanas in the district of Shahabad except the lands comprised in the local limits of the municipalities and Notified Area Committees constituted under the Bihar and Orissa Municipal Act, 1922 The formal sanction for the revisional survey and settlement of the entire district at a total estimated cost of Rs 32 lakhs was communicated by the Government through Revenue Department memo. no. A|S-105|60—10843-R, dated 11th November 1960.

Officers

Shri C R. Vaidyanathan, I.A.S., assumed charge of his duties as Settlement Officer in October, 1960. Shri A K M. Hasan, I.A.S., joined Shahabad Settlement as Charge Officer in November, succeeded Shri Vaidyanathan as Settlement Officer in April, 1963.

One Deputy Collector and four Sub-Deputy Collectors have been posted permanently to this settlement. In addition a number of officers belonging to I A S., I.P S, Bihar Judicial Service and Bihar Junior Civil Service were posted to this settlements as Assistant Settlement Officers, on training.

PROGRESS.

The progress of settlement operations up to 31st October, 1963 is shown in Appendix A. It would be seen that out of a total of 6,078 villages 3,603 villages covering 2,730 square miles have been surveyed up to October, 1963 and record-of-rights prepared Thirty-two thousand seven hundred and forty-six *khanapuri* and attestation disputes have been instituted and disposed of. The number of objections decided under section 103A of B. T Act is 61,339.

In the field season, 1963-64, it is proposed to take up *kistwar* and *khanapuri* work in 1,513 villages covering 1,160 square miles *Kistwar* and *khanapuri* work is likely to be completed in respect of the entire district by the end of next field season (1964-65)

CERTAIN IMPORTANT ASPECTS OF SETTLEMENT OPERATIONS
BOUNDARY DISPUTES.

Up to the end of October, 1963, 26 boundary disputes have been instituted and disposed of As a matter of fact not many boundary disputes were instituted as in the Revisional Survey the authorities have to follow the boundaries established in the cadastral survey that took place during the period 1907—16.

There was an interesting boundary dispute in which the districts of Patna and Shahabad were concerned (Boundary Dispute no. 1 of 1960-61). The dispute related to land measuring about 70 bighas on the boundary between village Suraundha (Thana no. 131) of the district of Shahabad and village Modahi (Thana no 40) of the district of Patna The disputed land was originally shown in the last survey as part of village Suraundha and subsequently it was tagged to village Modahi The confusion in the boundary between the two villages was the source of endless and costly litigation between the parties After due enquiry and scrutiny of papers it was finally held that the disputed lands were part of village Suraundha of Arrah Revenue Thana.

DISPUTES AND THEIR NATURE.

Most of the disputes instituted related to questions of title and possession The documents produced by the parties were examined and all the disputes were decided on merits. In a number of cases local enquiries were also held before deciding the disputes It was noticed that the hold of ex-intermediaries on the *raiyats* is still considerable In one of the villages it was noticed that the *raiyats* are dividing their produce with ex-intermediaries even after the abolition of intermediary interests Most of the ex-intermediaries were reluctant to get the rights of their under-*raiyats* recorded Even when it had been recorded during *khanapuri* they took prompt steps to file objections under section 103A of B T. Act to get entries cancelled

IMPACT OF THE ABOLITION OF ZAMINDARI.

The intermediary interests in the district have been abolished with effect from 26th January, 1955. The Government has taken upon itself the task of collecting land revenue The total rental demand of the district has been ascertained after verifying the *jamabandis* filed by the ex-intermediaries. The rent collection work at present is being done through *Gram Panchayats*.

The more conspicuous effect of abolition of zamindari is the wholesale encroachment on *gairmazrua malik* and *gairmazrua am* lands by interested persons It must be admitted that the encroachments were not promptly removed as was the case under the zamindars. In a number of cases the encroachments have been legalised by fixation of rent. It is necessary that the Land Reforms staff remain more vigilant and safeguard the *gairmazrua malik* and *gairmazrua am* lands from the onslaught of encroachers.

The land reforms set up is comparatively recent. Most of the land reforms staff are new to the work. They are gradually getting used to their present responsibilities. It is also necessary to give them proper training so that they can discharge their duties more efficiently

OBSTRUCTIONS TO SETTLEMENT OPERATIONS

At the time of traverse survey of villages Isarpura (Thana Dumraon no. 1), Sonbarsa (Thana Dumraon no. 27) and Ramkarhi (Thana Dumraon no. 299) the cadastral boundaries of the villages were not maintained and portions of villages Nawranga Chak (Thana no 1530), Bhuwal Chapra (Thana no 1527), Nawranga (Thana no 1410), Bariaipur and Sheopur were also included in contiguous southern villages. On account of change in the course of the Ganga the above mentioned villages which originally were in Uttar Pradesh appeared on the southern side of the mid stream of the river. Dumraon Raj purchased the lands by virtue of a decree and started setting the lands. Tenants belonging to Isarpura, Sonbarsa, etc , began occupying the lands by force with the help of Dumraon Raj.

At the time of Settlement Operations the tenants who paid rent to Dumraon Raj wanted that the survey should be conducted on the existing traverse sheets of villages Isarpura Noubarar, Sonbarsa Noubarar and Ramkarhi Noubarar. The tenants who did not pay rent to Dumraon Raj largely belonged to Uttar Pradesh equally opposed the scheme and wanted that last survey cadastral boundary should be restored and survey be conducted on blue-print maps after retraverse survey The tenants of village Nawranga prevented the *amin* deputed for *kistwar* from starting his work The *kistwar* of village Pandeypur (Thana no. 122) was obstructed by the tenants

on the ground that only a small portion in the south of the village was surveyed by the traverse party and not the entire village extending towards north. The *khanapuri* of village Shobhanathhi which was on both the sides of mid stream of the Ganga was obstructed by the tenants as the midstream of the village had changed transferring the village to Uttar Pradesh The village of Jagdeopur (Thana no. 298), Revenue thana Shahpur was carved out of Isharpura, Thana no. 1 and Sonbarsa (thana no 27) and delineated in the year 1936-37 by the Collector of Shahabad with the sanction of the Board of Revenue The rent of the lands in this village was realised by Dumraon Raj The Collector, Shahabad purchased the estate comprising the village and got it delineated and surveyed in 1936-37. Even after the date of vesting of Dumraon Raj, the rent was not realised by the *Khasmahal* Department or any other agency of the Collector of Shahabad The tenants of Isharpura who held lands in the village vehemently opposed survey on the basis of blue-print maps as they thought that it would be disadvantageous to them

Survey of Kaimur Plateau

Out of 776 square miles surveyed during the season 1961-62, 457 square miles lay within the Kaimur Range. The survey of the plateau which is covered by jungle for the most part, created considerable difficulties. In the first place, transport of men and materials presented a serious problem There were no facilities worth the name of communication Almost the entire plateau within Bhabua subdivision is served by only one extra departmental post office at Adhaura Transport facilities were restricted to pack bullocks but even those were neither sturdy nor readily available It was only in big villages where the grain merchants from the plains came for business and trade used to be carried on by pack bullocks More often one had to walk miles to fetch drinking water from the *Chuans*, the local term for the natural spring. Another curious fact about the plateau was that the local inhabitants were not enthusiastic about growing vegetables and there is an occasional supply of potatoes brought by the village *Bania* from the plains There was in addition constant fear of wild animals, although it must be mentioned that indiscriminate poaching had destroyed a considerable portion of wild life on the plateau. Life, in short, was hard for the survey staff posted on the plateau and this was accentuated by the difficulties that had to be faced during *kistwar* On account of the shifting nature of the cultivation on the hills, it was difficult to establish adopted stations for revisional survey Due to the growth of forests the traverse stations established during the last cadastral survey could not be easily identified or approached, which incidentally required considerable felling of trees Due to the difficulties many of the *amins* ran away or pleaded illness or actually fell ill

Khanapuri was fairly simpler, essentially on account of the fact that the people living on the hills have not yet become accustomed to the use of dubious means by which the *raiyats* of the plains try to covet the lands of others. But the main stumbling block was the manoeuvering of the money-lenders who belonged to the plains. The poor *raiyats* of the hills used to mortgage their lands to such money-lenders, who, however, allowed the *raiyats* to cultivate the lands on *batai* terms. The money-lenders used to go to the plateau at the time of harvest and collect their share, leaving the poor *raiyat* poorer The alienation of land by members of the scheduled tribes and scheduled castes without the permission of Collector is prohibited under section 490 of B T Act This provision of law was not enforced strictly Hence a large number of such cases of mortgage or sale of land by the protected tenants of the hills to the money-lenders of the plains had to be faced All such cases were, however, dealt with and decided according to law

SPECIAL INSTITUTIONS OF THE PLATEAU *

Throughout the plateau in Bhabua subdivision which was taken up for survey, it was noticed that the villages had two leaders, one the temporal and the other spiritual These offices are more or less hereditary, although it must be said that after the advent of the gram panchayats, the importance of these traditional institutions is on the decline The temporal leader is known as '*Gauhan*' while the spiritual is called *Baiga*' They had often to work in collaboration and in important spheres of work there was no clear-cut or water tight division between the two The dispensation of justice in minor cases constituted a major responsibility of the two, previously It is also interesting to note that in the plateau if any person dies issueless the *Baiga* succeeds to the estate After the panchayats have been constituted the judicial functions have more or less been taken over by the *Sarpunches* But as a matter of fact, the good offices of these leaders are still available to the people for settling minor differences when the parties do not choose to go to the panchayats As a reward for undertaking this responsibility, the *Gauhan* and *Baiga* were formerly given rent-free tenancies which are referred to as '*Neyayi Jagirs*' But after the vesting of the zamindari all those *jagir* lands have been assessed to rental by the State of Bihar After the judicial functions were taken over by the Gram Panchayats, there was perhaps no justification for continuing those *jagirs*.

The *Gauhan* was entrusted with the task of receiving and entertaining guests of the village landlords, Government officers and the others, but this custom has mostly fallen into disuse. *Baiga* is the village priest and he is called upon to initiate all auspicious operations and functions No villager will cultivate the land

* More details will be found elsewhere (P C R C).

until the *Baiga* has initiated the cultivation operations on his own land. The officers employed in the survey and settlement operations found that the *Gauhan* and the *Baiga* were very useful in the sense that they had a fund of information and could reel off the genealogical tables of several families of the village and also give precise particulars about the transactions that have taken place in respect of lands. In *khanapuri*, the *partalling* officers had often to send for the *Baiga* or the *Gauhan* to check the correctness of the entries. Although these two institutions are declining in their importance in the eyes of the administration, the local villagers still treat them with respect and give them a place of honour in their society.

There is a *Baiga* for each village worth the name but not for separate *tolas* of a village On a query the Settlement Officer informed that the total number of *Baigas* and *Gauhans* was not readily available with him. The institution of *Baigas* survives but the institution of *Gauhans* is on the verge of extinction. The Settlement Officer further informed that a number of *Baigas* have occupied the lands which once belonged to persons who died issueless or migrated to the plains.

Choukidari Chakrana in Kaimur Hills.

On Kaimur Hills the choukidars are in possession of chaukidari *chakrana* lands for which they pay no rent and they also receive no pay. Over and above the profits of their *chakrana* lands, they used to get from each *raiyat* of their village one bundle of crop once a year and also 25 to 30 seers of crop at harvest time The former contribution was locally known as '*Puri*' and the latter as '*kharwan*' From the month of *Aghan* to *Magh* the choukidar was expected to go to each house every night where he used to get ½ to ⅛ seer of cooked food from each villager which maintained him and his family for about three months in the year. This was called '*Bhatta*' The villagers also used to make small contributions to the choukidars for clothing, etc Recently choukidari *chakrana* lands have been resumed in certain villages and rent assessed on them in lieu of pay to the choukidars.

Expenditure.

The total expenditure incurred on Shahabad Settlement Operations up to 31st October, 1963 is as follows.—

		Rs.
(1) Pay of officers	.. .	1,64,785.76
(2) Pay of establishment	. ..	6,95,801.40
(3) C. L. A. and other allowances	..	5,36,575.47
(4) Travelling allowance ..	..	1,19,951.06
(5) Contingency—Non-contract	..	11,18,102 49
Total	..	26,35,216.18

PARTAL.

The statement given below will indicate the quantum of *kistwar partal* done during the various seasons in terms of linear miles per square mile of area surveyed.—

Season	Linear miles of *partal* per square mile done by A. S. Os.	Linear miles of *partal* per square mile done by Kanungos and Survey Inspectors.
1959	0.03	0.85
1959-60	0.45	2.00
1960-61	0.42	1.90
1961-62	0.18	0.97
1962-63	0.61	2.54

The comparatively low figure of *partal* in 1961-62 was due to the fact that out of 776 square miles surveyed during the year 457 square miles lay within the belt of Kaimur Range covered by forest.

In *khanapuri* there was adequate *partal* as will be revealed by the following figures.—

Total number of plots *khanapuri*	Number of plots checked by A. S. Os.	Percentage of A. S. Os. *partal*	Number of plots *partalled* by Kanungos and S. Is.	Percentage of Kanungos and S. Is. *partal*
31,19,340	91,847	2.9	13,00,095	41

ANTI-CORRUPTION MEASURES

Steps taken to stamp out corruption in the settlement operations may be classified into three categories:—

(a) Educative, (b) preventive, and (c) punitive. Before commencement of the field season, meetings of *mukhiyas* and leading agriculturists are convened to educate the people in the meaning and methods of survey and settlement operations so that people may not be misled by the *amins*. Leaflets have also been printed and distributed in the villages indicating the different stages of settlement operations and also the

steps that the *raiyats* will have to take to have their lands correctly mapped and recorded The people are told that there are several stages at which the errors, if any, may be corrected without having resort to unfair means It is also made clear to the people that the entries made by the *amin* are not final and that those entries in *khanapuri* records are capable of revision not merely at some subsequent stage of the settlement operations but by an order of the superior inspecting officers like the Assistant Settlement Officer, Charge Officer or the Settlement Officer.

PREVENTIVE

The Assistant Settlement Officers are easily accessible to the public so that the tenants may have no difficulty either for getting some mistake corrected or for getting their fears allayed. The Settlement Officer, Charge Officer as well as the Assistant Settlement Officers tour in the interior of the district and ascertain from the people whether they have any grievances against the survey staff There is a consistent *partal* by all ranks of inspecting staff so that the scope for extorting illegal gratification may be minimised Also experience showed that it was at the point of making entries of the lands covered by sale deeds, mortgage deeds, deeds of exchange, etc., that extortion by the survey staff is usually resorted to In order to obviate this difficulty a circular letter was issued to all the *mukhiyas* soliciting their co-operation and requiring them to prepare statements in which the details of such deeds as have been acted upon, might be given The *mukhiyas* have been asked to sign those statements themselves so that future enquiry may not, as a rule, be necessary and *khanapuri* entries may be based on the statements furnished by the *mukhiyas*. The response of the *mukhiyas* is encouraging

PUNITIVE.

Miscellaneous petition registers are kept in all camps as well as in the headquarters office. All petitions received from the public are entered in those registers and petitions containing allegations of corruption or dishonesty are dealt with in the confidential section of the Settlement Officer. The allegations are enquired into without loss of time and where the allegations are proved, the persons at fault are sternly dealt with. In a majority of cases, the *amins* and inspectors against whom the allegations were found to be *prima facie* correct, were discharged and in a number of other cases their earnings and securities were also forfeited. In a good many cases where the allegation could not be proved but there were grounds for reasonable suspicion, the *amins* and inspectors were fined heavily.

A statement given below indicates the number of persons discharged on grounds of dishonesty or misconduct till 30th November, 1963 —

	Total number discharged	Number discharged on ground of corruption and misconduct.
1. Amin	266	32
2. Munsarim	31	5
3. Surveyor Munsarim . ..	7	3
4 Notice Muharrir	2	1
5. Survey Inspector	15	7
6. Record Muharrir	1	..
7. Camp peon	7	2
8 Orderly peon	10	6
9. Process server	12	1
10 Draftsman	3	1
11. General muharrir .. .	4	..
12. Peshkar	2	..
13. Draft Publication Muharrir ..	1	...
TOTAL .	361	58

Care is also taken to circulate the names of the discharged hands to other Settlement Officers as well as the Consolidation Officers with a request that the discharged hands of this settlement may not be employed there. The other Settlement Officers also communicate such information

U.P.-BIHAR BOUNDARY DISPUTES.

At present a number of villages are under dispute between U. P. and Bihar The dispute was referred to the Prime Minister who had appointed Shri C M. Trivedi, Member, Planning Commission as the arbitrator Shri Trivedi visited Arrah in August, 1963 to examine the claims of Bihar over the disputed villages. It is expected that his award will be announced shortly. Pending the announcement of his award, survey and settlement operations have not been taken up in the villages under dispute.

It may be mentioned that the Shahabad Survey and Settlement Operations are likely to be completed by the end of 1967.

APPENDIX "A".

STATEMENT SHOWING THE PROGRESS OF SHAHABAD SETTLEMENT OPERATIONS UP TO 31ST OCTOBER, 1963.

Area notified for Survey Settlement in the district — Area in square miles .. 4,392; Villages .. 6,078

Season.		Area and villages taken up in the year: Village	Area in square miles.	Village.	Finished from Kistwar and Khanapuri: Area in square miles.	Total number of plots *khanapuri*	No of disptues instituted and disposed of during *khanapuri* and attestation	Finished from attestation: Village.	Plots.
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1959	..	209	97	209	97	1,45,832	3,231		
1959-60	..	385	277	385	277	3,43,592	6,151	..	..
1960-61	..	876	768	876	766	11,69,527	10,698	570	4,69,983
1961-62	..	718	776	718	776	4,12,076	4,025	507	6,37,960
1962-63	.	1,415	814	1,415	814	10,46,366	8,641	645	7,09,903
TOTAL	..	3,603	2,730	3,603	2,730	31 17,360	32,746	1,722	18,17,846

Season.		Finished from draft publication: Village	Plots	Under draft publication: Village	Plots.	Objections under section 103A, B T Act: Instituted	Decided.	Pending
1		10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1959	..	.			.	..	..	..
1959-60	..	.	..	.		..	.	..
1960-61	..	569	4,63,961	.		29,320	14,411	14,918
1961-62	..	503	6 27 040			45,196	18,716	41,398
1962-63	.	650	7,26 845			36,432	28,912	49,634
TOTAL		1,722	18,17,846			1,10,957	62,039	1,05,950

N B.—Attestation of 25,376 plots to be kept pending till decision of boundary dispute between Bihar and U. P.

CHAPTER XI.

LAW, ORDER AND JUSTICE.

INCIDENCE OF CRIME IN THE DISTRICT.

The district of Shahabad is bounded on the north by the river Ganga, on the east and the south by the Sone river, on the north-west by the Karamnasa river and on the west by the Mirzapur district of Uttar Pradesh To the north of the district are the districts of Ballia of Uttar Pradesh and Saran of Bihar, to the north-west are the districts of Varanasi and Gazipur of Uttar Pradesh, to the east is Patna, to the south-east is Gaya and to the south is Palamau district of Bihar.

The north-east portion of the district is the most densely populated part

The *diara* lands of the Ganga and the Sone are liable to floods causing a shifting of population every year during the rainy season and hence form good hiding places for the criminally inclined people These *diara* lands lie to the north of Koilwar-Buxar Road The *diara* lands grow only *bhadoi* and *rabbi* crops which are every year subject to floods in the rainy season and frost and other calamities in the winter season. The result is that the inhabitants of this area suffer badly and in times of distress are forced to seek employment elsewhere mostly outside the district Even then their requirements remain unfulfilled and they take to criminal habits. The main source of income of the people of the *diara* area is the rearing of cattle These people are prone to cattle lifting and committing dacoities outside their immediate vicinity and extend their depredations even to West Bengal and Assam These *diara* lands are not the hiding place of the criminals of Shahabad only but also those of Saran, Ballia and Gazipur districts, etc These gangs have people living in other parts of the district as their members and collaborators.

After the Second World War and the achievement of independence by India, prices of commodities soared very high and even now there has been no drop in the price structure. This has caused a sense of frustration with the result that some people have become anti-social and have taken to undesirable means to gain money. The abolition of the Criminal Tribes Act also led to some deterioration in the crime position.

After independence the army was demobilised and this resulted in some illegal traffic in fire-arms which passed into the hands of the criminals. These were some of the factors which caused a high incidence of crime in the district.

Lack of supervision and control owing to cessation of the operations of the Criminal Tribes Act over the criminals led to bad results initially. There is now no criminal class as such in the district. Mostly the Rajwars, Nonias, Dusadhs, Nats and Ahirs used to indulge in crime The Domes of Barhara police-station and of the towns were notorious for house breaking

In the years 1957—60 there was an outbreak of dacoities in the district led by inter-State gangs of Kamta Singh of Dumaria, police-station Shahpur, Kuer Singh of Jasatpur Pakari, police-station Bahera Teju Dhania of Karja, police-station Shahpur, Shirikishun Ahir—Ram Lakhan Ahir of Nanijore, police-station Brahmpur, Sheo Gobind Rajwar of Bihta, police-station Tarari Shambhu Singh of Bhabua subdivision, Dhanja of Nasriganj and the Nonia criminals of Rajpur, police-station Nokha.

In order to check crime the whole district was turned into a Military Police operation area and an Anti-Dacoity force was created in 1959 Due to large-scale arrests of the criminals, their successful prosecution and also to inter-gang rivalries in which Kuer Singh, Kamta Singh, Shirikishun Ahir and Ram Lakhan Ahir were killed, their gangs were liquidated Normal conditions returned to the district in the latter part of 1959. At present (1964) the following gangs are active in the district.—

(1) Rajwar gang of Bihta, police-station Tarari.

(2) Shayama Dubey's gang of Belaur, police station Arrah Mufassil.

(3) Bhagwanpur gang of Ahirs

(4) Tribhuwan Singh's gang of Chatar, police-station Barhara

(5) Satya Narain Ojha's gang of Kohara, police-station Mufassil

(6) Dome criminals of Nathmalpur Sinha and Lakshmipur of Barhara police-station

(7) Sona Dusadh's gang of Shahpur, police-station Brahampur.

(8) Bhani Choubey's gang of Jagdishpur police-station.

(9) Mandil Ahir's gang of Simri police-station.

(10) Sheo Pujan Koeri's gang of Itarhi police-station.

(11) Mukha Nonia's gang of Rajpur police-station associated with Nonia criminals of Dinara and Nokha police-stations.

(12) Nutam Ahir's gang of Nawanagar police-station.

Crime Statistics

The total number of cognizable crimes reported in the district and their results from 1953 to 1963 are given below:—

Year	Total number of cognizable cases reported	Charge-sheeted	Convicted	Acquitted
1	2	3	4	5
1953	5,855	978	455	523
1954	5,600	1,461	584	877
1955	1,883	1,249	367	882
1956	5,604	1,083	308	775
1957	6,149	1,111	326	785
1958	5,792	990	296	694
1959	4,683	Not available		
1960	4,461	1,096	379	717
1961	4,174	1,042	358	684
1962	4,729	1,137	404	733
1963	5,399	1,157	400	757

These figures show that the percentage of detection as compared with the cases reported was very meagre. Even then the number of person actually found guilty by the courts was less than half the number charge-sheeted and more than half got their acquittal.

... to July, 1963:—

Year.	Murder				Dacoity				Robbery.			
	Total cases	Charge-sheeted	Convicted	Acquitted	Total cases	Charge-sheeted.	Convicted	Acquitted.	Total cases.	Charge-sheeted.	Convicted.	Acquitted.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1953	51	25	9	16	83	31	12	19	64	18	6	12
1954	61	28	13	15	75	29	7	22	63	16	2	14
1955	50	41	14	27	98	35	14	21	98	19	5	14
1956	62	42	7	18	104	48	16	19	105	57	5	28
1957	81	30	15	19	225	43	7	16	125	32	12	17
1958							Not available					
1959	69	30	10	13	123	12	8	11	70	18	10	10
1960	72	31	16	16	114	36	15	31	70	12	10	13
1961	67	61	11	12	74	24	10	19	64	26	10	9
1962	67	30	14	16	67	24	13	13	63	25	8	11
1963	66	31	25	25	54	19	12	15	65	19	7	12

Year.	Burglary				Theft				Riot.			
	Total cases	Charge sheeted	Convicted	Acquitted.	Total cases	Charge-sheeted.	Convicted.	Acquitted	Total cases.	Charge-sheeted.	Convicted.	Acquitted.
1	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
1953	2,744	201	102	99	2,263	303	153	150	203	110	46	64
1954	2,809	277	99	178	1,135	387	155	232	241	169	45	124
1955	2,365	254	74	180	1,144	346	120	226	281	173	33	140
1956	2,519	421	56	103	1,133	373	93	160	412	308	48	167
1957	3,323	63	74	118	1,406	256	85	150	152	196	43	156
1958							Not available					
1959	2,407	100	62	95	1,137	164	69	175	384	251	47	142
1960	2,294	134	74	94	1,152	182	65	142	415	226	72	191
1961	2,110	189	58	72	1,221	260	73	126	314	225	64	159
1962	2,054	259	79	86	1,167	258	98	148	357	276	66	156
1963	2,394	159	67	89	1,295	279	84	125	472	287	58	159

N B—The figures of conviction and acquittal also include cases pending trial from previous years.

Shahabad may be described in Police language a criminal district. Murder, dacoity, riots are quite common as the figures will indicate. Further it has to be remembered that detections and convictions when charge-sheets given are not many. Gang dacoities still continue. The land disputes are often the background for riots. Thefts and burglaries along with cattle-lifting are common in this district along with the other districts. The abolition of the zamindari rights led to an agrarian upset and for some time riots over land disputes were rampant. Dacoities with gun and other arms will show that there is a large number of unlicensed fire-arms or some of the licensed fire-arms are abused. The large number of bad livelihood and other cases under the preventive sections show that the incidence of crime is quite high. The problems of law and order, like communalism, etc., keep the Magistrates quite busy. Shahabad is rich in rice produce while some of the neighbouring districts like Ballia in Uttar Pradesh and Saran in Bihar are not. So smuggling of rice becomes common if and when embargoes are imposed against inter-district or inter-State export and import of rice. Juvenile delinquency has not yet become a problem of any magnitude but the influence of the bad type of films, perverted ideas of social relationships between a boy and a girl, influence of sexy cheap literature in the languages is being increasingly felt on the maladjusted youths. Teddy-boyism is in an embryonic stage and may become a problem soon unless checked. Country-made liquor has become order of the day and is mostly responsible for quarrels in cinema houses and processions.

Organisation of the Police Force

It may be noted here that the population of south Shahabad is sparse as compared with north Shahabad and the production in south Shahabad *per capita* is greater than in the north. The criminals of the north were, therefore, prone to carry on depredations in the south, and, as it was found that the headquarters of the police district was situated in the north at Arrah at a great distance from the south, which was the seat of the activities of the criminals of the north, the district was split into two police districts. These police districts are (*i*) north Shahabad with headquarters at Arrah comprising Arrah Sadar and Buxar subdivisions, (*ii*) south Shahabad police district with headquarters at present at Dehri and comprises Sasaram and Bhabua subdivisions. Both the districts are independent of each other. But the Motor Vehicle, Passport and Rural Police sections have not been separated and continue to function at the district headquarters at Arrah for the entire district. This division was brought about under memo no. 10558 D—XXXI—I-21-61, dated the 4th December, 1962, from the Office of the Inspector-General of Police, Bihar.

The north Shahabad police district comprises of the following police-stations with their outposts, viz., Arrah town including three outposts, Arrah, Nawadah including two outposts, Arrah Mufassil,

Koilwar, Barhara and Udwantnagar of Sadar Circle of Sadar subdivision; Shahpur, Bihea Beat House, Piro, Tarari, Jagdishpur, including two town outposts, Sandesh, Sahar, Agian outpost and Bhual Chapra outpost of Piro circle of Sadar subdivision; Buxar with two town outposts, Itarhi, Rajpur with one outpost, Dumraon with two town outposts, Barhampur, Nawanagar and Simri of Buxar Circle of Buxar subdivision.

The strength of this police district consists of one Superintendent of Police, three Deputy Superintendents of Police, one Sergeant Major, three Inspectors, two Sergeants, 42 Sub-Inspectors 51 Assistant Sub-Inspectors, two Jamadars, 30 Havildars, 681 Constables, one Senior District Prosecutor and seven Assistant District Prosecutors

Besides these the *Anchal* force consists of 18 Havildars, five Naiks and 146 Constables

The south Shahabad police district consists of the following police-stations with their town outposts and outposts.—

Sasaram with three town outposts, Chenari, Rontas, Dehri with three town outposts, and Sheosagar with one outpost in Sasaram Circle of Sasaram subdivision. Bikramganj, Dawath, Nasriganj, Kargahar, Dinara and Nokha of Bikramganj Circle of Sasaram subdivision. Bhabua with one town outpost, Adhaura, Chainpur, Chand, Mohania, Kudra, Ramgarh and Durgawati with one check post at Karamnasa in Bhabua Circle of Bhabua subdivision.

The police force consists of one Additional Superintendent of Police, two Deputy Superintendents of Police six Inspectors, one Sergeant Major, two Sergeants, 44 Sub-Inspectors, 38 Assistant Sub-Inspectors, 18 Havildars, 514 Constables, one District Prosecutor and four Assistant District Prosecutors

Besides these the *Anchal* force consists of one Jamadar, two Havildars, four Naiks and 166 Constables

The *Anchal* force was organised in 1956 mainly for the purpose of guarding and escorting the Government revenue money entrusted to the Block Development Officers in the different Community Development Blocks

Both the Superintendent of Police of north Shahabad and the Additional Superintendent of Police south Shahabad are under the administrative control of the District Magistrate of Shahabad, and the Deputy Inspector-General of Police at Patna. The Inspector-General of Police at Patna is the administrative head.

It may be mentioned that the whole of Shahabad district has 339 *Dafadars* and 2,816 Chowkidars for the rural areas.

District Crime Bureau.

To maintain records of criminal gangs operating within and outside the district and help the regular police force in investigation and crime control work, a District Crime Bureau has been established in each of the two police districts of Shahabad The Bureau in north Shahabad police district consists of one Inspector, two Sub-Inspectors and one Writer Constable and the Bureau of south Shahabad police district consists of two Sub-Inspectors, one Writer Constable and one Constable.

Anti-Dacoity Force.

Due to the large incidence of dacoities in several parts of the State an Anti-Dacoity Force was created in 1959 with one Deputy Superintendent of Police for the districts of Shahabad, Palamau and Gaya taken together He works under the Superintendent, Anti-Dacoity Force, Patna The headquarters of the Deputy Superintendent of Police is at Dehri (District Shahabad). The following staff work under the Deputy Superintendent of Police:—

North Shahabad—one Inspector, three Sub-Inspectors, three Writer Constables and one Constable.

South Shahabad—four Sub-Inspectors, four Assistant Sub-Inspectors and six Constables.

Village Resistance Groups

To meet the problem of dacoities in the post independence period, these groups were formed out of the members of the public for the purpose of patrolling and dacoity control in different police-stations The villagers were exhorted to organise themselves into a disciplined body and to enrol volunteers. In addition to this the *Gram Panchayats* organise Village Volunteer Force in each *Gram Panchayat* They are also to act with the regular and rural police for the purpose of law, order and crime control measures. There has not been much impact of this force nor much enthusiasm in the rural areas to join it Lack of statutory rights also stands on the way The youths of the villages do not want to play the second fiddle

Mounted Military Police.

The creation of a Mounted Military Police Contingent at Arrah is an outcome of the Piro riots in 1917, when the State Government felt the necessity of having an effective Military Police in the State Consequently with the concurrence of the Central Government they sanctioned the establishment of five troops of the Mounted Military Police with its headquarters at Arrah under M P. Act (V) of 1892 from the 16th October, 1919. The Superintendent of Police, Shahabad was appointed under the above Act as the Commandant of the force and he still functions as such. The State Government increased its strength by two more troops in 1943.

It is a State Reserve force and its movement is directly controlled by the Inspector-General of Police. The main objective of the force is to help the regular police in maintaining law and order throughout the State. Out of seven, three troops have been stationed at Arrah, the district headquarters of Shahabad. For their speedy reach to places away from Arrah, one troop each has been stationed at Patna, Jamshedpur, Bhagalpur and Muzaffarpur

The sanctioned strength of the force in 1964 is as follows:—

(1)	Sergeant Major	1
(2)	Resaidar	1
(3)	Jamadars	7
(4)	Non-Commissioned Officers	41
(5)	Sowars	172
(6)	Horses	202

BIHAR MILITARY POLICE.

This is an emergency force to supplement the local police when there are emergencies. This force is controlled by the Deputy Inspector-General of Military Police and Training with headquarters at Patna. This force goes to other States as well in deputation to deal with mass disturbances. The movement of this force is controlled by the Inspector-General of Police, Bihar with the sanction of the State Government.

One unit of this force that is Bihar Military Police II has been stationed at Dehri. The strength of this force is as follows:—

1 Commandant, 1 Assistant Commandant, 3 Wing Commanders, 1 Subedar Major, 7 Subedars, 21 Jamadars, 76 Havildars, 54 Naiks, 8 Writer Naiks 54 Lance Naiks and 711 Sepoys.

GOVERNMENT RAILWAY POLICE.

There are three Government Railway Police-Stations in the district, viz., Arrah, Buxar and Sasaram The Sasaram Government Railway Police has two town outposts, viz., at Dehri-on-Sone and Bhabua Road railway stations. The Arrah and Buxar Government Railway Police Stations have no town outposts. The strength of these police-stations at Arrah, Buxar and Sasaram consists of one Sub-Inspector, one Assistant Sub-Inspector and Constables of different strength. The town outposts consist of an Assistant Sub-Inspector and some Constables.

The main function of the police-stations is to check railway crimes in the district. These police-stations cover the whole of the district. The jurisdiction of Arrah police-station is from Koilwar railway station to Raghunathpur railway station. The area covered

by this police-station is about 49 running kilometres. The jurisdiction of Buxar police-station is from Raghunathpur railway station to Karamnasa river. The area covered by this police-station is about 30 running kilometres The jurisdiction of Sasaram police-station is from Dehri-on-Sone railway station to Durgauti railway station rather up to Durgauti river The area covered by this police-station is about 75 running kilometres. These police-stations are under the administrative control of the Superintendent, Railway Police with headquarters at Patna

RAILWAY PROTECTION FORCE.

The main function of the force is to protect and guard the railway property and also the public property entrusted to the railway as carrier

There are two posts of the railway protection force in this district, viz, at Buxar and Dehri-on-Sone. The Buxar post has an outpost at Arrah and the post at Dehri-on-Sone has no outpost within the Shahabad district The strength of the Buxar post is one Sub-Inspector, two Head *Rakshak**, nine Senior *Rakshaks*†, and about 23 *Rakshaks* ‡. The strength of Dehri-on-Sone post posted within the Shahabad district is one Sub-Inspector, five Head *Rakshaks*, 13 Senior *Rakshaks* and 51 *Rakshaks*. The outposts at Arrah has one Assistant Sub-Inspector and some Constables The jurisdiction of the Buxar post in this district is from Koilwar to Chousa railway stations (93 running kilometres) and the jurisdiction of Dehri-on-Sone post in this district is from Dehri-on Sone to Karamnasa railway station (86 running kilometres) These posts in the Eastern Railway (Main and Grand Chord Lines) are under the Chief Security Officer of the railway protection force, Eastern Railway with headquarters at Calcutta

HOME GUARDS.

The Home Guards Force was organised in this district with effect from July, 1948 in accordance with the Bihar Home Guards Act, 1947, to provide a volunteer organisation to assist in the maintenance of peace and tranquillity in the State of Bihar and to inculcate habits of self reliance and discipline among the volunteers and the public in general to develop in them a sense of civic responsibility

The Home Guards are enrolled by the District Magistrate on the recommendation of a Board consisting of the Superintendents of Police, the Commandant of the Home Guards and one un-official member The term of their appointment is for four years out of which one year is for active service and the remaining three years are spent in reserve

* Head *Rakshak*—Havildar

† Senior *Rakshak*—Naik

‡ *Rakshak*—Sepoy.

They are trained in various types of trades. They are also given rifle training. The training begins after the selection and medical examination. There is a Central Training Camp for Home Guards at Bihta (district Patna). Their initial training period is for 105 days. Later they are required to attend a refresher course for 21 days each subsequent year.

During the course of training the Home Guards are paid duty allowance at rupee one per day per head and ration allowance at Rs. 40.00 per month per head. When they are called up for duty they are paid duty allowance at Rs. 1.50 per day per head and ration allowance at Rs. 40.00 per month per individual.

It is the duty of each Home Guard to respond to each call up and, if they fail to report for duty, they can be prosecuted under the Home Guards Act.

The services of the Home Guards during the General Elections of 1957 and 1962 and during the last Chinese aggression have been much appreciated. They were called up in view of the communal disturbances this year (1964)

The strength of this force is as follows:—

One District Company Commander, five Company Commanders, one Havildar Clerk, one Sepoy Orderly, thirty-six Section Leaders, thirty-six Assistant Section Leaders and 493 Home Guards. They are trained, equipped and armed and are under the Superintendent of Police They assist the District Magistrate through the Superintendent of Police.

During the last National Emergency the other branch of Home Guards known as Urban Home Guards has also been provided to the district. This branch is functioning since 1st December, 1962 in the district. There are three Company Commanders, one Havildar Clerk, one Driver, one Sepoy Cleaner who have been posted in this district to look after the training of the Urban Home Guards.

The Urban Home Guards Volunteer Force has been organised in three companies in the district with their headquarters at Arrah, Dalmianagar and Dehri There are two platoons of gentlemen including one Company Commander, two platoon Commanders, six Section Leaders and six Assistant Section Leaders and one Platoon of ladies including one Platoon Commander, two Section Leaders and two Assistant Section Leaders in Arrah town. There are two Platoon of gents only in Dalmianagar. No Non-Commissioned Officers have yet been selected. There are one Platoon of gents and one Platoon of ladies in Dehri. No Non-Commissioned Officers have yet been selected.

JAILS.

Regarding Jails the *Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) mentions:— "Besides the subsidiary jails, there is a District Jail at Arrah and a Central Jail at Buxar. The subsidiary jails at Buxar, Sasaram and Bhabhua are merely lock-ups and in 1921 the daily average of prisoners was only nine, thirteen, and fourteen, respectively. At Buxar male prisoners are sent to the Central Jail on conviction and female prisoners to the District Jail, as there are no female wards in the Central Jail, in the other subdivisions all but short-term prisoners are sent to the Arrah Jail, where on the average one hundred and nine prisoners were confined daily in 1921. This jail has accommodation for fifty prisoners under trial; and for sixteen Juvenile, eighteen female and two hundred and twenty-five male convicts, with hospital accommodation for twenty-four prisoners. The Buxar Central Jail is the largest jail in the Province, with accommodation for 1,160 convicts, and hospital accommodation for seventy-five. The principal industries are tent making, cloth weaving and the manufacture of uniforms for the Police and Jail Departments. The profits in 1921 were Rs. 58,784"*

The jail administration has had a great expansion and changes since. Arrah and Buxar Jails have now got independant status with individual Superintendents They are under the direct administrative control of the Inspector-General of Prisons with headquarters at Patna.

CENTRAL JAIL, BUXAR.

The Central jail is under a whole-time Superintendent with a staff of one Deputy Superintendent, two Sub-Assistant Surgeons, one Jailor, seven Assistant Jailors, one Chief Head Warder, nineteen Head Warders and one hundred and sixty-three Warders. This jail is meant for male prisoners from all over the State. The registered accommodation of the jail is for 994 prisoners. But the daily average jail population during the last seven years shows that the number of jail inmates far exceeds this population.

The table below supplied by the Central Jail Office will show the daily average population during 1957 to 1964:—

Year.	Daily average population.
1957	1,278.30
1958	1,425.08
1959	1,528.18
1960	1,562.70
1961	1,484.62
1962	1,535.14
1963	1,576.11
1964 (up to February, 1964)	1,568.23

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad*, 1924, By J. F. W. James, page 188.

The Central Jail is located in a consolidated area of 83 acres out of which 40 acres are utilised for gardening which supply vegetables to the jail inmates. There are mango trees and banana plantation. This jail has a small dairy farm maintained inside the jail and the products are used for the jail inmates.

The main industries of the jail are making of tents out of materials manufactured in the jail, weaving, *newar* making and tailoring of the uniforms for the Government employees. The industries in the jail are supervised by the Deputy Superintendent who is a technical man of the Industries Department, Bihar, Patna. The details regarding the industries in the Central Jail have been discussed in the chapter 'Industries'.

It may be noted that discipline of the standard required under the Jail Manual Rules is maintained. Under-trial prisoners are kept separately from the convicted prisoners. There is still the cell system in the jail which has accommodation for 80 prisoners. The cells are no longer meant for desperate criminals At one time they were used for political prisoners also.

With the help of the Education Department, Bihar, a Social Education Centre has been started in the jail during 1958-59 The actual work of the centre is to make the prisoners literate. At present (1964) there are 106 students and one teacher. During 1963-64, 75 books had been given by the Education Department to the centre in shape of book grant. A middle school was also running in the jail but due to emergency in 1962 the school was closed. Facilities for musical recreation on Sundays, festival days and certain important holidays are given by the centre. For this, musical instruments like *tabla, dholak, jhal* had been supplied to the centre by the Education Department in 1962-63.

The table below supplied by the Central Jail Office will give the number of the prisoners that have been made literate through the centre during 1959 to 1964:—

Year.				No. of persons made literate.
1959	..	..	.	219
1960	..	..	..	218
1961	..	..	..	212
1962	.	..	..	205
1963	..	..	..	217
1964 (up to February 1964)		..	..	43

The percentage of the literacy of jail inmates is about 15 per cent.

There is a library in the jail which has about 2,300 books. There is no proper arrangement for the study room in the library. Books are issued to the inmates for study in the wards. On the average books are issued to 25 prisoners daily. Due to lack of accommodation, the prisoners cannot sit for study in the library room.

The classification of the books available in the library is as follows:—Social novels (341), stories for neo-literates (295), religious books (159), poetry books (398), educational books (570), books on literature, i.e., Hindi, Urdu and English (300) and miscellaneous (237).

It may be noted that the prisoners mostly read novels, religious and educational books. The neo literates read short stories and educational books. The prisoners are allowed to take the newspapers like the Indian Nation, the Searchlight, the *Aryavarta,* the *Pradeep,* the *Nawrashtra* and the periodicals like the *Dharmyug* and the *Saptahik Hindustan,* etc., to their wards.

For recreation, film shows are exhibited once in a month. For this, the jail has been provided with one projector of sixteen millimetre and an operator. The educational, religious and social type of films are shown to the prisoners. It may be noted that since 1959 fifty films have been shown to the prisoners.

The jail has a hospital with two Doctors and one Compounder-*cum*-Dresser. It has 72 indoor beds for general patients and 12 beds for tuberculosis patients. The Deputy Superintendent of the Buxar subdivisional hospital is in charge of the jail hospital who visits twice a week to examine the patients.

The table below supplied by the Central Jail Office, Buxar, will show the number of indoor and outdoor patients treated and death during 1960-61 to 1963-64:—

Year	Number of indoor patients treated	Number of Tuberculosis patients treated	Number of outdoor patients treated.	Number of deaths.
1	2	3	4	5
1960-61	573	25	4,024	Nil.
1961-62	531	21	4,036	4
1962-63	642	17	4,148	Nil.
1963-64	741	13	4,132	Nil.

District Jail, Arrah.

The District Jail at Arrah is under a whole-time Superintendent with a staff of one Jailor, one Sub-Assistant Surgeon, two Assistant Jailors, five Head Warders and 40 Warders.

The total area of the jail is 21 34 acres out of which 4 acres of the land are utilised for gardening

It may be mentioned that the status of this jail had to be reduced from that of a district jail to a sub-jail during the First World War due to financial stringency Some of the staff quarters were made over temporarily to the Police Department. As a measure of post-war reconstruction scheme on the basis of the population being constantly very high for a sub-jail, this jail being situated at the district headquarters, its original status along with the building was restored to this jail and it again became a district jail since 1951.

The registered capacity of this jail is 416 male and 13 female prisoners This jail has a small dairy farm maintained inside the jail and the products are used for the jail inmates. The jail has a hospital of 15 beds. This hospital has its own staff who work under the supervision of the Civil Surgeon of Arrah, but are under the administrative control of the Superintendent of the Jail.

The table below supplied by the Arrah District Jail office will indicate the daily average population of prisoners for the last 13 years:—

Year	Average population.
1951	429 53
1952	406 00
1953	451 47
1954	395 82
1955	441 52
1956	432.19
1957	357 04
1958	447 27
1959	481 46
1960	387 04
1961	380 23
1962	382.92
1963	407 63

The prisoners are given instructions in making *newar* and *duree*, weaving gardening and dairy farming, etc The jail has a library with 400 books and also a Social Education Centre.

Besides the District Jail, there are three subsidiary jails, one at Buxar with accommodation for 28 male and five female prisoners, one at Sasaram with accommodation for 227 male and 13 female prisoners and one at Bhabua with accommodation for 53 male and seven female prisoners. Each of the subsidiary jails is under the charge of the Deputy Superintendent of the subdivisional hospital He is a part-time Superintendent of the subsidiary jail The Buxar subsidiary jail has one Assistant Jailor, one Head Warder and six

Warders. The Sasaram subsidiary jail has one Assistant Jailor, two Head Warders and ten Warders. The Bhabua subsidiary jail has one Assistant Jailor, one Head Warder and six Warders. The pattern and working of the subsidiary jails are like that of the District Jail on a smaller scale

The jail administration has undergone a great change. It is no longer a wooden system where the prisoners are given tasks of hard labour and corporal punishment as a matter of course. The present idea is to treat the jail inmates as members of the society and attempt is made to rehabilitate them

There is a provision for religious instruction to the prisoners. For this purpose a *pandit* and a *moulvi* are employed and they give suitable talks to the prisoners. Important festivals, both of Hindus and of Muslims are allowed to be celebrated inside the jail. Provisions for recreation and amusement are also available. The visits of the members of the family and receiving of letters are allowed within restrictions.

There is a separate board of visitors consisting of officials and non-officials for each of the jails in the district. The prisoners are allowed to contact the members with their grievances, if any, when they come on visit.

Provision for execution of death sentences has been made available only in Arrah District Jail. No such sentences have, however, been executed in the course of the last ten years.

PROBATION SYSTEM.

With the enforcement of the Probation of Offenders Act, 1958, in the State and release of prisoners on parole, there have been fundamental changes in the treatment of offenders. The word probation was used in the statute book as far back as in 1838. Section 562 of the Cr. P. C. used this word. It was provided therein that certain types of offenders committing trivial offences could be let off on probation of good conduct. The scope of this provision was executed with the amendment of Cr. P. C. in 1928. It was provided that the first offenders committing offences punishable with imprisonment for less than two years could be released on admonition. The first offenders aged below 21 years and women who are not liable to be punished either with deaths or transportation for life, and adult males above 21 who are not punishable with a term of imprisonment exceeding seven years could be released on probation of good conduct. No machinery was provided to the courts for ascertaining facts regarding the personality and character, social circumstances and prospect of rehabilitation of offenders in order to individualise punishment prior to the passing of Probation of Offenders Act, 1958.

After the enforcement of this Act in 1959 in this district, there has been a change in the method of dealing with the offenders. To implement this scheme there is a District Probation Officer posted at

Arrah who works under the Principal Probation Officer who is also the Superintendent of Arrah District Jail. It may be noted that since August 1961, one more post has been created on subdivisional level and 21 subdivisions in Bihar have been provided with Senior Probation Officers In Shahabad district, one Senior Probation Officer has been posted in Sasaram subdivision with headquarters at Sasaram whose jurisdiction extends over Sasaram and Bhabua subdivisions.

The grant of probation in the circumstances is not a final disposal of the order to the offenders. The court merely suspends the infliction of punishment and subjects the offenders to a process of trials. As stated above, an agency is provided to the courts where an offender can be supervised and treated through counselling and guidance while he is allowed to remain at large and assisted through the mobilisation of social assistance for him.

The table below supplied by the District Probation Office, Arrah will give the figures of offenders released on probation and parole enquiries conducted during 1959 to 1964 (up to February, 1964):—

Year	Released on probation	Parole enquiries conducted
1959 ..	7	14
1960	9	48
1961 .	20	74
1962 .	18	85
1963 .	20	102
1964 (up to February, 1964)	6	29

The salient features of the Probation of Offenders Act, 1958, are as follows:—

The Courts have been given the power to place any offender on probation who is found guilty of having committed any offence not punishable with death or imprisonment of life provided in the circumstances of the case including the nature of the offence and the character of the offender such a course is considered expedient by the court.

(i) Restrictions on the use of probation based on age, sex and previous conviction as mentioned in section 562, Cr. P. C., have been removed.

(ii) The Act envisages a regular machinery for enquiring into the personality, character, antecedents and home surroundings of the offenders, which is to assist the court in determining the most suitable method of dealing with him.

(iii) It envisages a social machinery to supervise probationers as well as to advise and assist them while on probation and after discharge from the same.

(*iv*) It envisages a release of an offender on various types of conditions including residential requirements and payment of compensation by him.

(*v*) It makes probation enquiries mandatory in cases of offenders below 21 years of age, where the provisions of the Act are applicable.

Juvenile prisoners, female prisoners and habitual offenders are kept separate from the prisoners of other categories

Under-trial prisoners are also kept separate from the convicts No work is taken from them except keeping their own personal equipments and wards clean. Juvenile prisoners undergoing sentence of more than three months are sent to Borstal School at Daltonganj.

ADMINISTRATION OF CIVIL JUSTICE

The *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) mentions as follows:—

"The Judicial staff entertained for the purposes of civil justice consists of the District Judge, two Subordinate Judges, and three Munsifs stationed at Arrah and of two Munsifs at each of the subdivisional headquarters of Buxar and Sasaram. Civil business has greatly increased since the first edition of this Gazetteer was published. Apart from the increase in rent suits which has been already mentioned, the increase is marked in suits of high valution Whereas in 1904, 296 suits valued at over a thousand rupees were instituted, in 1921 the number was 417."*

There has been substantial increase in the staff since although the steel-frame of the organisation remains the same

At present (1964) the head of the organisation for civil justice is the District and Sessions Judge Under him there are two Additional District and Sessions Judges, ten permanent and seven Additional Subordinate Civil Courts. Additional Courts are posted whenever there is a congestion in the files. The Judiciary is under the Patna High Court.

The Subordinate Civil Courts in the district in early 1964 consist of the courts of two permanent Sub-Judges, three Additional Sub-Judges, three permanent Munsifs and one Additional Munsif at the headquarters, one permanent and one temporary Sub-Judges, two permanent and one temporary Munsifs in Sasaram subdivision, and two permanent Munsifs in Buxar subdivision. There is no Munsif's court at Bhabua. Civil justice for the subdivision is administered from Sasaram.

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), p. 188.

The District Judge and the Additional District Judges have powers to try suits and hear appeals but generally they do not try suits except those of special nature. Besides powers for civil justice the District Judge and the Additional District Judges have the powers of a Sessions Judge also. The District and Sessions Judge is also vested with the powers of a Magistrate first class and also of an Additional District Magistrate. He may inspect all the criminal courts and offices in the district except that of the District Magistrate.

The Sub-Judges posted at Sadar have unlimited pecuniary jurisdiction on the original side regarding cases of both the Sadar and Buxar subdivisions. They are vested with the powers of Small Cause Court Judges to try suits up to the value of Rs 750 within the jurisdiction of Sadar and Buxar subdivisions Similarly the Sub-Judges at Sasaram also have unlimited pecuniary jurisdiction on the civil side and is vested with the powers of Small Cause Court Judges to try suits up to the value of Rs. 750 with the jurisdiction of Sasaram and Bhabua subdivisions. The Sub-Judges are empowered to hear appeals in civil suits decided by the Munsifs and those who function as Assistant Sessions Judges are empowered to hear criminal appeals against the decisions of the Second and Third Class Magistrates.

The Munsifs are vested with the powers in the original side as well as that of a Small Cause Court Judge within their respective jurisdiction. Their powers on the original sides do not exceed Rs. 5,000 and that of as a Small Cause Court Judge they are limited to Rs 350.

Since 1947 there is a court of an Additional Munsif in Arrah to deal with all the execution cases of all the Munsif's Courts at Sadar since 1947

The Registrar system was introduced in the district in January, 1948. A Munsif of experience is appointed to the post of a Registrar under the Judge. The Registrar looks after the day-to-day administration of the Judgeship He works as the link between the litigants and the courts. He helps the District Judge in his administration of the departments. The Registrar is also the Judge in charge of Nazarat, Accounts Forms, Stationery, Record Room and Copying departments. The Registrar system has helped the Judgeship to run more smoothly, expeditiously and efficiently

The scheme of separation of the executive and judicial functions is in operation in this Judgeship since 1950 This matter has been discussed under Criminal Justice

Since after the separation scheme, the Judicial Magistrates have come under the administrative control of the District and Sessions Judge Provisions for their staff, law books, forms and stationery are, however, made by the District Magistrate.

The two tables of civil suits and cases are given below. Table no 1 shows the total number of civil suits and cases instituted under different heads yearwise from 1950 to 1963. Table no 2 shows the details of civil suits, cases and appeals under different heads yearwise from 1950 to 1963.

TABLE 1.

Civil suits and cases instituted.

Year.	Title suits.	Money suits.	Rent suits.	*S. C. C suits.	Miscellaneous Judicial cases.	Execution cases.	Title appeals.	Money appeals.	Rent appeals.	Miscellaneous appeals.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1950	1,636	765	7,108	1,621	1,610	7,862	323	58	168	125
1951	1,423	815	6,558	1,412	1,680	7,034	244	49	181	134
1952	1,243	1,018	8,122	1,897	1,690	7,075	387	74	148	134
1953	1,257	1,028	9,389	2,207	1,914	7,641	562	78	135	160
1954	1,252	1,047	9,873	2,148	1,990	9,089	441	82	126	117
1955	1,290	1,069	6,726	2,053	2,194	9,082	437	124	93	154
1956	1,397	1,084	5,247	1,941	2,109	7,818	449	110	67	173
1957	1,263	1,045	4,991	1,626	1,913	6,770	423	85	27	181
1958	1,398	1,036	4,012	1,969	2,266	6,281	411	91	25	167
1959	1,462	1,066	1,296	1,537	2,128	6,652	381	95	17	208
1960	1,657	931	28	1,329	2,037	4,910	478	87	11	202
1961	1,646	793	23	1,467	1,870	3,829	434	57	4	196
1962	1,578	600	23	1,499	1,501	2,823	367	46	10	148
1963	1,867	643	21	1,657	1,566	2,236	374	51	2	152

*Small Cause Court.

TABLE 2.

Civil suits, cases and appeals.

Year.	Civil suits.				Civil regular appeals including rent appeals.				Rent appeals.			
	Last pending	Instituted.	Total	Disposed of.	Last pending.	Instituted.	Total.	Disposed of.	Last pending.	Instituted.	Total.	Disposed of.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1950	6,354	11,130	17,484	10,769	706	549	1,255	838	134	168	302	223
1951	6,963	10,208	17,171	10,591	457	474	931	564	80	181	261	215
1952 . ..	6,805	12,290	19,095	13,262	378	609	987	493	47	148	195	144
1953	6,093	13,881	19,974	14,043	507	775	1,282	579	52	135	187	137
1954 .. .	6,239	14,320	20,559	14,064	713	649	1,362	654	50	126	176	110
1955	5,899	11,138	17,037	11,656	722	654	1,376	854	67	93	160	141
1956 .. .	5,617	9,669	15,286	11,444	542	626	1,168	603	19	67	86	61
1957	4,074	8,925	12,999	9,580	604	535	1,139	528	27	27	54	38
1958 . .	3,653	8,415	12,068	8,463	636	527	1,163	568	16	25	41	30
1959	3,834	5,361	9,195	6,134	629	493	1,122	407	16	17	33	19
1960 . ..	3,250	3,945	7,195	4,088	752	576	1,328	578	14	11	25	19
1961 . ..	3,269	3,929	7,198	3,638	786	495	1,281	562	7	4	11	9
1962 . ..	3,733	3,700	7,433	3,495	747	423	1,170	291	2	10	12	4
1963 . ..	4,075	4,188	8,263	3,263	905	427	1,332	325	8	2	10	8

TABLE 2—*concld.*

Year.	Miscellaneous appeals.				Miscellaneous cases.				Execution cases.			
	Last pending.	Instituted	Total.	Disposed of	Last pending.	Instituted.	Total.	Disposed of.	Last pending.	Instituted.	Total.	Disposed of.
1	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
1950 ..	66	125	191	124	507	1,610	2,117	1,620	3,890	7,862	11,752	6,232
1951	68	134	202	152	501	1,680	2,181	1,688	3,261	7,034	10,295	5,201
1952 .. .	51	134	185	130	510	1,690	2,200	1,775	3,236	7,075	10,311	4,725
1953	55	160	215	143	439	1,914	2,353	1,849	3,685	7,641	11,326	6,109
1954 . ..	73	117	190	135	531	1,990	2,521	1,904	3,648	9,089	12,737	6,091
1955	58	154	212	143	637	2,194	2,831	2,153	4,379	9,082	13,461	6,960
1956 ..	72	173	245	179	704	2,109	2,813	2,235	4,151	7,818	11,969	5,794
1957	69	181	250	162	614	1,913	2,527	1,909	4,048	6,770	10,818	4,717
1958 . ..	88	167	255	169	642	2,266	2,908	2,117	4,284	6,281	10,565	5,121
1959 . ..	88	203	291	144	819	2,128	2,947	2,075	3,665	6,652	10,317	4,431
1960 .. .	150	202	352	239	892	2,037	2,929	1,972	3,896	4,910	8,806	4,238
1961 . .	118	196	314	191	986	1,870	2,856	2,054	3,292	3,829	7,121	3,337
1962 ..	126	143	274	131	832	1,501	2,333	1,516	2,865	2,323	5,688	2,696
1963	149	152	301	134	815	1,566	2,381	1,488	2,331	2,236	4,567	2,007

Table number 1 gives the break up figures of civil suits and cases instituted while table number 2 deals with the total number of civil suits, cases and appeals dealt with during the corresponding years.

From the above tables it appears that the number of the civil cases rose in the years 1952 to 1954, and this was due to the greater number of rent suits filed. The increase in the number of rent suits was due to the fact that tenants might not have been in a position to pay rent or to the fact that zamindari was going to be abolished and so the zamindars thought that they should realise the arrear rents from the tenants before the abolition of zamindari.

Naturally with the abolition of zamindari the number of rent suits decreased in the later years. This decrease was not visible in other types of civil suits.

Civil Court Record Room

The records are kept in a room (called the Record Room) attached to the Civil Court buildings at Arrah The records are maintained according to the rules framed by the Patna High Court. The oldest record available here is that pertaining to title suit no. 448 of 1857 which was decided in the year 1858 The parties to the suits were

Mir Najaf Ali—*Plaintiff*

versus

Abdul Ali and others—*Defendants.*

This suit was for the partition of the plaintiff's share in the suit properties and was decreed without costs These records are in Persian script.

Criminal Justice.

The *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) mentions:—

"Criminal Justice is administered by the District Judge, who is also Sessions Judge, and by the District Magistrate and fifteen subordinate magistrates at the headquarters and subdivisional stations. Under the existing arrangement these fifteen magistrates also perform revenue functions as deputy or sub-deputy collectors; one of them, a Sub-Deputy Collector at Sadr, is specially appointed for partition work The sanctioned staff at Arrah consists, in addition to the District Magistrate and this partition officer, of five Deputy Magistrates exercising first class power and two exercising second or third class powers. The Subdivisional Officers are Magistrates vested with first class powers, and there are also stationed at Sasaram a Deputy Magistrate and a Sub-Deputy Magistrate, at Buxar a Deputy Magistrate; and at Bhabua a Sub-Deputy Magistrate to assist

> the Subdivisional Officers. The Superintending Engineer and the Executive Engineer at Arrah have the powers of magistrates of the third class, and try cases connected with breaches of Irrigation laws. There are benches of Honorary Magistrates at Arrah, Bhabua, Buxar, Dumraon, Jagdishpur and Sasaram. In all there are thirty-eight Honorary Magistrates, of whom ten are empowered to sit singly for the trial of cases."*

There are only two courts of Honorary Magistrates in the district (1964), one at Arrah Sadar and other at Sasaram. The other set up mentioned has also changed

Previous to 1st January 1950, original criminal cases were tried by the Magistrates either of Bihar Civil Service or of Subordinate Civil Service commonly known as Deputy and Sub-Deputy Magistrates or by the Sessions Judges. There were also Honorary Magistrates of first, second and third class powers†. The Magistrates used to be vested with criminal powers of either first, second or third class The courts were vested with powers of the seniors, first, second and third class according to the Criminal Procedure Code.

According to the Amendment Act 26 of 1955 in Cr. P. C. the Magistrate with first class powers could pass sentences for imprisonment either simple or rigorous for a term not exceeding two years and fine not exceeding two thousand rupees The Magistrate with second class powers could pass sentences for imprisonment either simple or rigorous for a term not exceeding six months and fine not exceeding five hundred rupees The Magistrate with third class powers could pass sentences for imprisonment either simple or rigorous for a term not exceeding one month and fine not exceeding one hundred rupees. The court of any Magistrate may pass any lawful sentence, combining any of the sentences which is authorised by law to pass They were under the administrative control of the District Magistrate The Magistrates of first class powers were empowered to hold preliminary enquiries against the accused persons in cases triable by the Court of Sessions and commit to the Court of Sessions They commit the accused persons to stand their trial in the Sessions Court after finding a *prima facie* case against them on the evidence adduced Commitment is an order passed by the Magistrate of first class in an enquiry under Chapter XVIII of Cr. P. C of the offences triable by the Court of Sessions. Appeals from the decisions of second and third class Magistrates were heard by the District Magistrate or some other Magistrate specially empowered under Section 407 Cr P. C to hear appeals Appeals from the decisions of first class Magistrates were heard by the

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* *District Gazetteer, Shahabad* (1924), pages 183-184

† At Sasaram there were two life Honorary Magistrates, namely, M Ahmad Ali Khan Pleader and Shah Moizuddin Ahmad, an unique privilege rarely bestowed

District Judge or the Additional District Judge. The decisions of the District or Additional District Judges could be taken up in appeal to the Patna High Court under Section 410, Cr P. C.

Under the above set up the District Magistrate, Subdivisional Magistrates and Deputy Magistrates had the dual role of the administration of criminal justice besides their executive work. In his executive capacity a Magistrate has to maintain law and order and see to the prevention of breach of peace. This dual system of a combination of the executive and judicial functions in the one and same person was not an unmixed good and often did not inspire confidence to the litigants that justice was being done. In this dual capacity a Magistrate had to tour out of headquarters for days, run other administrative duties and had to make himself available for receiving and giving executive orders in exigencies of administration. Naturally his time was divided and he could not possibly give an exclusive attention to the disposal of cases Long adjournments, harassment of witnesses by being kept over and delay in delivering orders were common features. The Magistrate always could not inspire confidence to the lawyers and the parties.

As a Magistrate in his executive capacity he often came to acquire extra-judicial contacts and specific information about a particular case and it was humanly difficult for him to completely disabuse his mind of all that when he sat as a Court to hold even the scale of justice. The dispensation of impartial justice was not always possible under the above system where the District Magistrate, Subdivisional Magistrates and the Deputy Magistrates or Sub-Deputy Magistrates exercised executive as well as judicial functions, and were intimately connected with the police administration. Such officers were commonly taken to have a bias towards passing orders of conviction. It was felt that if fair and impartial justice was to be done there should be a separation of the two functions and one and the same person should not be made both the judge and an executive Magistrate. Article 50 of the Indian Constitution enacted on the 26th January, 1950 also gave the directive that, "the State shall take steps to separate the judiciary from the executive in the public services."

Broadly speaking there are two categories of criminal cases; one under the provisions of the Indian Penal Code and the other under Acts other than the Indian Penal Code, such as Police Act, Indian Railway Act, Cattle Trespass Act, Cruelty to Animals Act, Factories Act, Payment of Wages Act, Motor Vehicles Act, Telegraph Wires (Unlawful Possession) Act, Bihar Sales Tax Act, Treasure Trove Act, Indian Boiler Act, Bengal Vaccination Act, Punitive and Preventive Sections 144, 145, 107, 109, 110 of Cr. P. C. etc.

SEPARATION OF EXECUTIVE AND JUDICIAL FUNCTIONS.

The separation of executive from the judicial function has been an old demand of the leading citizens of India since the days

of Raja Ram Mohan Roy. The Indian National Congress, as early as its second session, passed a resolution urging the separation of executive from the judicial functions of the country. The question of separation of executive also came up for consideration in connection with the debate on the Government of India Act, 1935. At that time some members of the Parliament suggested that in accordance with the principle in English law the executive should be separated from the judicial administration and the subordinate criminal judiciary should be placed under the control of the High Court. But that proposal was not accepted on the ground that in India different considerations had to be made and as such subordinate criminal judiciary could not be placed under the control of the High Court of the State It may be recalled that the idea of separation of executive from the judicial function has its root also in the '*Ain-i-Akbari*', where it has been laid down, "Refer not his case to the Diwan, for his grievance may be against the Diwan' Anyway no further progress was definitely made in the matter till the enactment of our own constitution in the year 1950.

As to earlier efforts the Bihar Government under Resolution no. 5866-A., dated the 1st December, 1946, had appointed a committee to frame a practical scheme for the separation of *judicial and executive functions. The committee was headed by* Mr. Justice Meredith The committee after examining various aspects of judicial and executive functions, submitted a report to the Government with their recommendation in support of separation of judiciary functions from executive in one and the same man. As per recommendations of the Meredith Committee, the scheme of separation of judiciary from executive was introduced in this district from the 1st January, 1950. Deputy Magistrates or Sub-Deputy Magistrates, whose services were placed under the High Court exclusively meant for judicial work known as Judicial Magistrates and the Munsifs vested with criminal powers known as Munsif-Magistrates were put under the administrative control of the District Judge, while the Executive Magistrates were put under the administrative control of the District Magistrate.

Since 1960 in some districts, of which Shahabad is one, the system of separation of the Executive and the Judiciary has been introduced. There are two peripatetic District and Sessions Judges, one for the north Bihar and the other for the south Bihar. The peripatetic District and Sessions Judge, South Bihar, inspects the courts of the Magistrates on the judicial side once every year. The inspection is primarily meant to remove delays in the administration of justice.

There are two types of cases, viz., cognizable and non-cognizable. Cognizable cases are those which are taken cognizance of by the police or by the Magistrate specially empowered under Section 190 Sub-Section 2 of Cr. P. C. The police investigates under Section 156

Cr. P. C. and submit final report or charge-sheets under Section 173 Cr. P. C. to the Subdivisional Magistrates concerned. If a case is made out and the accused has to stand his trial, a charge-sheet is submitted and if the case is ripe for hearing the Subdivisional Magistrate transfers the case under Section 192 Cr. P. C. to the Munsif-Magistrate or the Judicial Magistrate for trial. If the police investigation does not make out a tangible case against the accused, the police will submit a final report which usually means that irrespective of the fact whether the case is true or not, the case is not fit to come to trial. But the police conclusion to the case is not final. The Subdivisional Magistrate has to apply his judicial mind; he may agree with the police report, accept it or he has the prerogative to order the police to submit charge-sheet, if he thinks the police report should not be accepted. The Magistrate has the right to call the case diary maintained by the police for studying, if a proper investigation has been made by the police. After charge-sheet is submitted, the case is sent for trial to the Munsif-Magistrates or to the Judicial Magistrates.

Complaints for offences can also be filed by the aggrieved party before the Subdivisional Magistrates or the Magistrates specially empowered to take complaints. Usually complaints for non-cognizable offences are made before the Magistrate who is empowered to take complaints. If from the statement on oath of the complainant the Magistrate concludes that a case is *prima facie* not made out, he may straight away dismiss the complaint under Section 203 Cr. P C If he wants, he may hold an enquiry himself or he may order under Section 202 Cr. P C. any Magistrate or the police or any respectable person to hold an enquiry On getting the report he may hold or order for further enquiry or he may dismiss the complaint or he may summon the accused to stand his trial When the accused is summoned and the presence of the accused is secured the case is transferred to the Munsif-Magistrate or the Judicial Magistrate for trial The Magistrate's order could be taken to the District Judge in appeal or review under Section 407 Cr. P C. The aggrieved party may file a petition under Section 435 Cr P. C. against the order of the Magistrate before the District Judge for revision or review of the order.

Appeals from the decisions of conviction or acquittal of the Munsif Magistrates and the Judicial Magistrates are heard by the Sessions Judge or the Additional Judge to whom the cases are transferred by the District and Sessions Judge An aggrieved party may take the decisions of the District or Additional District Judge to the Patna High Court and finally to the Supreme Court. In Supreme Court an appeal will only lie on the point of law and under special leave.

Those cases that do not come under the perview of the Indian Penal Code, but are offences against other Acts are normally filed by the department concerned and by the police and triable by the

Executive Magistrates. Only under Sections 144, 145 and [illegible] Cr. P. C the third party may also put the law in motion

The following is the distribution of the Executive Magistrates and Honorary Executive Magistrates in Shahabad district (1964)

Number of Executive Magistrates	Power	Place of posting
8	First class	Arrah Sadar
1(Honorary)	Second class	Ditto
3	First class	Buxar
1	Second class .	Do
3	First class	Bhabua
3	First class .. .	Sasaram
1	Second class	Ditto

The District and Sessions Judge is both the judicial and administrative head of the Judgeship. He is under the administrative control of the Hon'ble Patna High Court. He is usually a member of the Bihar Judicial Service and has served for more years as a Munsif and Sub-Judge. He may also have been recruited direct from the Bar. The Additional District Judge is also either a member of the Bihar Judicial Service or recruited from the Bar.

There is a District Judge and two Additional District and Sessions Judges in this Judgeship posted at Arrah (Shahabad) There are two permanent courts of Sub Judges at Arrah (Shahabad) and one at Sasaram. They are vested with the powers of an Assistant Sessions Judge. The Court of the Sub-Judge was established at Sasaram in 1948. For purpose of quicker disposals more courts may be set up at any time. The Hon'ble Patna High Court gets a large number of returns and reports as to the position of the cases and suits There are also periodical inspections by the Hon'ble High Court as also by the peripatetic District and Sessions Judge, South Bihar.

The following is the distribution of the Judicial Magistrates and Munsif-Magistrates in the district in 1964.—

Number of Magistrates.	Power	Place of posting
2 Munsif .	First class .	Arrah.
1 Munsif .	Second class	Do.
1 Honorary ..	First class .	Do
2 Munsif . ..	First class ..	Buxar.
2 Munsif . ..	Second class ..	Do
2 Munsif	First class .	Sasaram.
1 Munsif	Second class	Ditto.
1 Honorary .	First class .	Ditto.
1 Munsif . ..	First class ..	Bhabua.
1 Munsif ..	Second class ..	Ditto.
1 Judicial	First class ..	Ditto.

Panchayat Courts have been described elsewhere. The *Panchayat* Courts have been given certain statutory powers for disposing of petty criminal cases. The bench and the parties in such cases all come from the same locality and the lawyers are a taboo. The main idea is that there will be a compromise failing which there will be speedy disposal of the case costing very little to the parties concerned

But it has to be mentioned here that there is no statutory obligation of the villager that he has got to take his case to the *Panchayat* Courts. He may go to the police or to the Magistrate with a complaint as well.

The role of the lawyers in helping the courts to come to a correct decision must be mentioned. The lawyers on either side work on the same purpose that is to have justice done according to law although seemingly they are at cross purpose. An able lawyer interprets the facts elicited in the evidence for the benefit of his client and he will never try to mislead the Court. The Bar in this district has been covered elsewhere. It is difficult for the Bench to work properly without the help of an intelligent and conscientious Bar.

The statistics of Sessions cases from 1950 to 1963 are given below:—

Year.	No of Sessions cases pending from before.	Institu-ted.	Total	Disposed of	Number of persons Acquitted	Number of persons Convicted.	No of witnesses examined.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1950 ..	40	99	139	116	501	114	1,478
1951 ..	23	122	145	108	382	134	1,409
1952 .	37	143	180	143	464	186	1,721
1953 ..	37	144	181	152	474	196	1,745
1954 .	29	153	182	151	416	213	1,796
1955 ..	31	143	174	126	442	164	1,566
1956 .	48	135	183	160	461	226	2,246
1957 .	23	115	138	104	379	103	1,332
1958 ..	34	151	185	122	356	135	1,804
1959 .	63	141	204	141	576	212	1,863
1960	63	169	232	168	675	263	2,586
1961 ..	66	238	304	214	649	422	3,103
1962 ..	90	166	256	198	492	310	2,658
1963 .	58	195	253	175	603	244	2,449

From the above statistics it appears that the number of cases fluctuates every year But a high incidence of crime appears to have been recorded in the years 1954, 1958, 1960, 1961, 1962 and 1963. From the statistics it also appears that the number of persons acquitted is much higher than those convicted.

The statistics of Sessions Cases under some of the different Sections of the Penal Code in Shahabad Judgeship from 1950 to 1963 are as follows:—

Year.	Section 302.	Section 304.	Sections 363, 364, 366 and 369	Section 376.	Sections 395 and 396.	Sections 399 and 402 IPC.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1950	28	11	4	3	13	5
1951 .. .	38	12	6	4	20	2
1952	34	9	14	2	38	1
1953	37	4	14	3	21	4
1954	40	9	14	6	22	4
1955	35	11	9	2	32	4
1956	36	8	13	2	36	4
1957 .. .	41	7	8	3	21	..
1958	42	11	7	2	33	6
1959 ..	41	8	9	2	28	5
1960	59	6	6	7	41	1
1961	80	10	11	7	42	1
1962	52	7	14	8	22	1
1963	43	13	12	5	26	2

From the perusal of the statistics above it appears that the incidence of murder cases is high in the district. The statistics also show that the incidence of dacoity is also high in the district.

The statistics of criminal cases from 1950 to 1963 tried in the Magisterial courts are given below:—

Year.	Pending from before.	Received.	Total.	Disposed of	Number of persons Acquitted.	Number of persons Convicted.	No. of witnesses examined.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1950 ..	1,261	8,361	9,622	6,937	11,483	5,574	23,425
1951 .	969	3,615	4,584	3,788	7,491	3,032	30,572
1952 ..	628	3,460	4,088	2,891	5,544	2,474	15,476
1953 ..	1,074	3,604	4,678	3,175	6,633	2,067	16,001
1954 .	1,291	3,596	4,887	4,029	9,350	2,445	18,043
1955 .	1 072	3,432	4,504	3,680	9,748	1,905	19,190
1956	810	3,419	4,229	3,393	8,870	2,229	17,129
1957 .	852	3,377	4,229	3,168	8,406	1,695	13,915
1958	1,077	3,353	4,430	3,093	7,444	1,769	12,588
1959	1,291	3,664	4,955	3,286	8,610	2,088	13,442
1960 ..	1,524	3,916	5,440	3,481	8,205	2,060	14,448
1961 ..	1,926	4,352	6,278	3,649	9,107	2,389	15,374
1962 .	2,313	4,949	7,262	4,565	10,374	2,972	16,288
1963 ..	2,328	4,652	6,980	4,789	11,645	3,075	15,350

From the above statistics it appears that the number of cases fluctuates every year. But a high incidence of crime was recorded in the years 1950 and 1962. From the statistics it also appears that the number of persons acquitted is much higher than those convicted.

Jury and Assessor System.

Mention has to be made of the jury and assessor system so far as criminal justice is concerned. The names of respectable persons

used to be empanelled as jurors and assessors and an odd number of them used to be called up and associated with the Judge in sessions trials. Under the assessor system the majority opinion of the assessor was not binding on Sessions Judge and he might deliver his own judgement absolutely contradictory to the opinion of the assessors. It was, however, the duty of the Judge to explain the law and the facts of the case as transpired from the examination in chief and cross-examination and leave the assessors to come to their opinion.

In a jury system the procedure was the same but the majority opinion of the jurors had a statutory obligation on the Sessions Judge. The Sessions Judge would either give his judgement accepting the majority opinion of the jury and pass the sentence or he could differ from the majority opinion of the jury giving his reasons and refer the case to the higher court.

It is unfortunate that the jury and the assessor system did not work well. It was difficult to get always the proper type of men as jurors or assessors and their opinions were often perverse Various types of allegations against them were common. The jury system was in vogue in Shahabad district till 30th April, 1961. It now stands abolished.

PANCHAYAT ADALATS.

The details of the working of the *Gram Panchayats* will be found in the chapter Local-Self Government. It may, however, be mentioned here that the *Gram Panchayats* were established to cut-down litigation, expedite the disposal of the cases cheaply at the villages and to bring about as many compromises as possible. Lawyers are not allowed and the judges consist of the co-villagers. But according to recent amendment, lawyers are allowed in certain circumstances. The Bihar Panchayat Raj Amendment and Validating Act, 1959, Section 71 runs as follows:—

> "No legal practitioner or person declared or known to the Gram Kutchery to be a tout shall appear, plead or act on behalf of any party in any suit or case before the benches thereof. Provided that a person who is arrested shall have the right to consult and to be defended by a legal practitioner of his choice".

It was thought that the witnesses would not perjure themselves at their villages and that the cases in the courts of the Stipendiary Magistrates will go down. In practice, however, this has not been fulfilled. On the other hand it has been found that the elections of the *Mukhiyas* and *Sarpanches* are always preceded or followed by tension often based on castelines or village groupings.

The *Gram Kutchery*, the judiciary of the *Gram Panchayat*, is headed by the *Sarpanch* who is elected by adult suffrage. He is vested with the powers of a Third Class Magistrate. He has certain emergency powers in case of apprehension of breach of the peace

(vide section 64 of Gram Panchayat Act) He is also vested with civil powers to dispose of petty suits. He can try both civil and criminal cases of simple nature. In trial of cases he is assisted by a panel of *panches* consisting of five *panches* including himself, one *panch* each nominated by the contestants and two other *panches* selected by him. They all derive their powers under a statutory Act. *Gram Sevak,* the paid employee of the *Gram Panchayat* acts as the bench clerk. So far as the administration of justice is concerned, these courts are under the general supervision of the District Judge and the Munsif of competent jurisdiction in respect of civil cases and the Subdivisional Officer in respect of criminal cases. The following statement gives the statistics of the *Gram Kutcheries* from 1951-52 to 1961-62

Statement showing the position of cases and suits tried by the *Gram Kutcheries* in the district of Shahabad from 1951-52 to 1961-62:—

Year.	Number of notified Gram Panchayat.	Number of Gram Kutcheries.	Number of cases and suits instituted		Number of cases and suits disposed of		Number of cases and suits compromised	
			Cases	Suits	Cases	Suits.	Cases	Suits
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1951-52	134	134	530	89	375	73	299 (56.3%)	41 (46.1%)
1952-53	232	232	565	133	463	99	272 (48.3%)	45 (38 8%)
1953-54	260	260	246	29	153	24	114 (45.9%)	14 (48.6%)
1954-55	397	397	768	198	636	163	431 (56.5%)	95 (48 7%)
1955-56	397	397	1,747	999	1,518	880	1,038 (59.2%)	447 (43 8%)
1956-57	397	397	1,620	941	1,445	855	918 (56.3%)	290 (31.2%)
1957-58	792	605	1 750	951	1,744	1,061	1,163 (66 2%)	325 (34.3%)
1958-59	812	793	2,185	1,364	1,941	1,222	1,374 (62.8%)	534 (38.8%)
1959-60	812	805	1,720	966	1,520	825	1,069 (61 7%)	454 (46 9%)
1960-61	813	805	1,207	367	1,097	464	817 (66.8%)	161 (44.4%)
1961-62	813	805	544	547	497	407	373 (68.6%)	315 (57.4%)

The statement of the disposal of cases that has been given shows that quite a large percentage of criminal cases and civil suits have been compromised every year. The percentage calculation has been shown within brackets in the columns 8 and 9. The percentage of compromises in civil suits is, however, not as encouraging

as in the criminal cases. The highest percentage of compromise in civil suits was 57.4 and of criminal cases was 68 6 in 1961-62. This is a healthy sign

The statistics suggest a higher incidence of litigation year to year This however, has to be taken with the back ground that almost every year more *Gram Kutcheries* are opened and function. The number in 1961-62 was 805.

Legal Profession and Bar Association

The legal profession consists of Barristers, Advocates, Pleaders, Mukhtiars and their clerks At present there is only one Barrister in the district. There are 136 Advocates at Arrah, 7 at Buxar, 73 at Sasaram and 6 at Bhabua The number of Pleaders at Arrah is 39, at Buxar 54, at Sasaram 68 and at Bhabua 7. There are 65 Mukhtiars at Arrah, 21 at Buxar, 34 at Sasaram and 22 at Bhabua. The number of their clerks in the district is not available. The number of Mukhtiars is dwindling due to the abolition of Mukhtiarship Examination. Since the enforcement of the Advocates' Act 1961, the Pleaders are getting themselves enrolled as Advocates.

The Bar Association and the Mukhtiars Association at the district headquarters and also at the subdivisional headquarters of Buxar and Sasaram have their own buildings and libraries separately while those at Bhabua have a joint building and a joint library. The Associations look after the interest of their members and maintain a dignified and helpful relationship with the Bench

The State Government have also appointed a separate class of Police Officers who are known as District Prosecutors and Assistant District Prosecutors They conduct criminal cases on behalf of the State in the magisterial Courts.

Shahabad has produced some brilliant members of the Bar. There is no information of any contribution to research in law from the lawyers of the district.

It may be mentioned that several brilliant lawyers of this district had gone up very high in their profession or on the bench. One of the Hon'ble Chief Justices of the Supreme Court of India was Shri Bhuvaneshwar Prasad Sinha, who comes from Gaziapur village of Sadar subdivision of Shahabad district. Sir Jwala Prasad, a man of this district was the acting Chief Justice of the Patna High Court and Shri Sukhdeo Prasad Verma, Bar-at-law was also a Puisne Judge of the Patna High Court. At present Shri Mahavir Prasad, Bar-at-law, a man of this district is the Advocate-General of the Patna High Court He was also a Puisne Judge of the Patna High Court.

In the history of administration of justice, Shahabad district brought some important cases for trial, e.g, Rohtas murder case, Burma case, Piro communal riot case and Dumraon case.

CHAPTER XII.

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

MUNICIPALITIES.

There are six municipalities, viz., Arrah, Bhabua, Buxar, Dumraon, Jagdishpur and Sasaram. The details of each municipality are given below:—

Arrah Municipality.

The Arrah Municipality was constituted in 1865 under the Bengal Municipal Act. The District Magistrate used to be the *ex officio* Chairman of the Municipality and remained as such till the 22nd March 1922 and after the enforcement of the Bihar Municipal Act, 1922, a non-official Chairman was elected and the first elected Chairman was Shri Bhagwat Prasad, an Advocate of Arrah.

The Municipal office was first located in a thatched house at the present site. In 1928 the construction of a house was taken up and for one year the office was shifted to Chorbaddi House, east of the Dean's tank in Arrah town. It was shifted to the present building in 1929.

In 1865 the Municipal Board consisted of seven members. Since then there have been changes in the number of Municipal Commissioners. *The District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924)* mentions that the Arrah Municipality consisted of thirty members of whom 24 were elected by the rate payers. In 1963 the number of Municipal Commissioners is 40 of whom 32 were elected by the rate payers and eight were nominated.

The population of the municipal area according to 1961 Census is 76,766†. A detailed discussion on the growth of the population since 1869 to 1961 has been given separately. From the old records of the municipality it appears that originally the municipal area was divided into four wards but subsequently the number of wards had increased. In 1924 the number of wards was 12 and in 1931-32 there were 24 wards which still continue.

There has been an expansion in the municipal area and the number of rate payers has also considerably increased. The *Shahabad District Gazetteer* (1906)‡, mentioned that the area of the

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* *Shahabad District Gazetteer* (1924) p. 189.

† *Census of India* 1961, *volume IV*, Bihar, Part II-A, General Population Tables, page 29.

‡ *Shahabad District Gazetteer* (1906) p. 120.

municipality was 6 sq. miles and the number of rate payers was 5,677 or only 12.2 of the total population. The number of rate payers as mentioned in the *Shahabad District Gazetteer* (1924)* was 7,797. The present number of rate payers in 1961-62 is 10,562 which is 13.7 per cent of the population. The area within the municipal limits is now 11.09 sq. miles.

Functions.

Street-lighting.—Prior to 1936 the municipality used to provide only kerosene lamps on the streets. In 1936 electric light was introduced in the town and the municipality provided 300 bulbs. In September, 1963 there were 819 bulbs and 80 kerosene lamps.

Primary Education—Free and compulsory primary education was introduced in this municipality on the 2nd October 1939 and the number of students receiving education in schools was about 1,500 and the number of the teaching staff was about 30. After 1939 there has been an increase in the number of schools In 1962-63 there are 80 primary schools with 155 teachers (126 male and 29 female teachers). The number of students attending these schools is 5,600. The average annual expenditure, as calculated on the basis of actual expenditure incurred in 1959-60, 1960-61 and 1961-62 on public instruction comes to Rs. 1,30,804.

Sanitation and Conservancy.

Prior to 1956 only bullock carts were used for the disposal of garbage In 1956 some mechanised vehicles were introduced for this work. At present (1964) there are 10 such vehicles along with some bullock carts The garbage from the narrow lanes are collected by wheel barrows. There are two dumping grounds, one at Singhi Balihar and the other at Shital tola, about a furlong from the T. B. Hospital. The preparation of compost was started in 1953 The compost is disposed of at the rate of Rs 3 per ton. There are 6,440 private latrines and 440 public seats There are 161 sweepers to attend the latrines and 11 sweepers for cleansing roads, etc It cannot be said that the conservancy arrangements are very satisfactory.

There is a Public Health Section under the charge of a Government Health Officer to look after the sanitary work. The Health Officer has a staff of one Sanitary Inspector, five Health Inspectors, two Disinfectors, one Inoculator, one Vaccinator, etc. In all a staff consisting of 425 persons is functioning for the proper management of the sanitation and conservancy work. There is a workshop at Jagjivan market for repairing the municipal vehicles. Mass inoculation is done every year from April to October as a precautionary measure against the outbreak of cholera and when it actually breaks

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* *Shahabad District Gazetteer* (1924), p. 189.

out some more vaccinators and disinfectors are employed. There is one permanent midwife to attend the delivery cases. Qualified Sanitary Inspectors and Health Inspectors are authorised to take samples from the vendors of foodstuff and send them for examination to the Government Analyst at Patna. After receiving report from the Analyst, cases are filed against those whose samples are found adulterated. The figures of food adulteration for 1962-63 are as follows:—

Total no. of sample drawn.	No. of samples sent to Government Analyst.	No. of sample found adulterated	No of prosecutions launched	No. of persons convicted	No. of cases pending.
1	2	3	4	5	6
360	310	90	72	43	20

Roads.—The municipality maintains the following kinds of roads:—

(1) Bituminous and tarred roads, 5 miles, (2) concrete road, 1 furlong; (3) road having water bound macadam and pavement with bricks and stones, 8 miles; (4) *Kankar* road, $\frac{3}{8}$ mile; (5) stone slab road, $\frac{3}{4}$ mile; (6) stone sets paving road $\frac{3}{8}$ mile and (7) *Katcha* road, 7 miles. The condition of the road is generally good.

House-construction.—The plans for building houses are submitted to the municipality. The municipal staff verifies the plan and after the fulfilment of all the conditions as laid down in the bye-laws of the municipality, the approval is accorded. Unauthorised constructions are not uncommon. There are also a number of very old dilapidated houses.

Park.—The Lal Park is partly maintained by the Government and partly by the municipality.

Water-Supply.—Regarding the water works of the Arrah Municipality, the *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1906)* mentions the following —

"Arrah is the only municipality in the Patna Division which is provided with a supply of filtered water. When the Lieutenant-Governor visited the town in 1891 he was struck with its insanitary condition and particularly with the want of a supply of pure drinking water. The town depended at that time for its water-supply on six wells and most of them were condemned by

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1906), pp 120-21.

medical authorities as unfit for drinking purposes. Year after year, as the rainy season came round, cholera broke out in epidemic form, and in each succeeding year with increased virulence. To remedy this state of affairs, it was decided to supply the town with filtered water from the Son, and nearly 4 lakhs was contributed for the construction of water-works. Of this amount the District Board and Municipality each contributed one lakh, and the late Raja Rajeswari Prasad Singh of Surajpura gave a generous donation of 1½ lakh, the balance being raised by local subscriptions. The works were begun in 1893, and were opened a year afterwards. During the year 1904-05 nearly 28,326,000 gallons of filtered water were supplied to the town, giving a daily average of 77,605 gallons or about 1⅘ gallons per head daily The water-works is managed by a Joint Committee of the Municipal Commissioners and District Board members, and the municipality contributes Rs 4,500 annually towards the cost of maintenance The income received from the water-rate has hitherto been insufficient for their upkeep and the loss on their working has only been made good by the District Board paying a large contribution (Rs. 4,000) every year. Recently, however, there has been a revision of the assessment, which has resulted in an increase of Rs 6,450; and in 1903-04 the receipts from the water rate for the first time exceeded the maintenance charges "*

Since the publication of the *Shahabad District Gazetteer* (1906) there have been many changes The water-work at Bahiara has now been completely abandoned since February, 1957 It was found that the river Sone had changed its course from the side of water-works steam plant. Every year from February to November the town suffered from short supply of water To avoid this difficulty the municipal authorities had sunk one tube-well of 20 horse power near Dharhara reservoir (in addition to the then existing water-works plant) in 1946. Again in 1950 another tube-well of 27 horse power was sunk at Bahiara near the compound of the then existing water-works. These tube-wells were sunk to meet the water-supply to the town people during the period the water-works could not function for want of water in the river Sone Both the tube-wells mentioned above were sunk out of the amount received from the Government and also from municipal resources But even they were not sufficient.

The State Government deemed it fit to sink tube-wells in the town. Under the reorganisation scheme of water-supply in Arrah town a scheme was formulated by which the Government sanctioned

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1906), pp 120-21

a sum of Rs. 14,88,000 on the basis of half grant and half loan to Arrah Municipality. Out of this amount the Public Health Engineering Department of the State Government, on behalf of the Municipality, sunk two wells of 60 horse power each, with three reservoirs—one at Mohalla Nawadah, the other in the court area and the third at Mirganj. Each well has a capacity to contain one lakh gallons of water The work was taken up in 1954-55 and completed in 1957-58. The municipality started supplying water from these reservoirs from July, 1957.

These tube-wells are supplying sufficient water for drinking purposes. As the town is developing fast, it is felt that sufficient water will not be available even from these existing tube-wells. Now the water works of Arrah is being managed by the Public Health Engineering Department and the Municipality simply gives the annual contribution in shape of money.

There are 1,780 house connections and about 550 public hydrants.

Financial Condition.

The *Shahabad District Gazetteer* (1906)* mentions that the average annual income for the decade ending 1901-02 was Rs. 52,000 and the expenditure Rs 47,000. In 1904-05 they were Rs. 58,050 and Rs 53,130 respectively, besides this direct expenditure, Rs 8,330 was paid in advance and the repayment of the loans. The incidence of taxation per head of the population was annas 12-7; it was formerly annas 11-5 The increase was due to a revision of assessment which was conducted in 1903 The main heads of income were a tax on persons according to their circumstances and property at 1½ per cent of their income, which yielded Rs. 16,260 in 1904-05, a water rate (Rs. 10,470), a tax on animals and vehicles (Rs 4,850) and a latrine rate (Rs 10,470). The principal items of expenditure are conservancy, medical relief, and public works, which accounted respectively for 16.6, 21 5 and 19.4 per cent of the expenditure It was further mentioned in the *Gazetteer* that owing to the burden imposed on the municipality by the water-works, Arrah, was one of the few municipalities in the Patna Division financially embarrassed. In order to provide for the construction of water-works, it borrowed a loan of one lakh from Government and Rs. 3,173 went towards repaying the interest and Rs. 2,580 towards the principal. The resources of the income were also affected by the annual occurrence of plague. The financial condition remained poor in the later years too. In 1917-18, 1918-19, 1919-20, 1920-21 and 1921-22 the total income of the municipality was Rs. 72,281, Rs. 67,870, Rs 78,137, Rs. 97,122 and Rs. 90,505 respectively while its total expenditure was Rs. 58,292, Rs. 73,936, Rs. 70,395, Rs. 81,655 and Rs 87,165 respectively.†

* *Shahabad District Gazetteer* (1906), pp. 120-21.

† *Shahabad District Gazetteer* (1924), pp. 139-40.

The main sources of the present income of the municipality are holding, water and latrine and professional taxes and license fees for vehicles, etc. and municipal properties which have been rented. The main items of expenditure are water-supply and water-works, public convenience and public works, conservancy, public instruction, drainage and sewerage works. The rate of the holding, water, and latrine taxes are 10 per cent, 12 per cent and 7½ per cent of the annual value of the holdings. The rate of cycle license and cart licence fees is Rs 3 per annum per cycle and Rs 4 56 per cart half yearly. Professional tax has been levied and the rate varies according to the income of the rate payers. The incidence of taxation and income per head of the population in 1961-62 was Rs. 4 and Rs. 12, respectively.

The statements below show the Receipts and Expenditure from 1956-57 to 1961-62:—

RECEIPTS.

Heads.	Year.					
	1956-57	1957-58	1958-59.	1959-60.	1960-61.	1961-62.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs
1 Balance in hand.	814,820	61,994	45,120	94,787	1,46,670	2,24,324
2. Rates and Taxes	2,97,559	2,88,190	2,56,147	2,68,707	3,02,208	3,31,177
3. Municipal Registration licence and other fees	42,084	39,165	42,693	58,306	42,757	43,295
4. Realisation under special Acts	892	764	450	672	460	1,644
5. Revenue derived from Municipal property and powers apart from taxation.	37,418	47,026	48,124	35,713	34,072	1,29,726
6. Grants and contribution.	97,591	4,76,411	4,36,925	2,05,783	3,87,984	4,17,050
7. Miscellaneous	1,03,004	17,990	26,788	30,673	45,523	57,370
8. Extraordinary debt.	25,182	32,498	21,313	13,323	26,673	16,623
9. Total receipts excluding opening balance.	6,03,730	9,02,039	8,32,440	5,93,177	8,39,677	9,96,885
10. Total receipts including opening balance.	14,18,550	9,64,033	8,77,560	6,87,964	9,86,347	12,21,209

EXPENDITURE.

Heads	Year.					
	1956-57.	1957-58.	1958-59.	1959-60.	1960-61.	1961-62.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. General administration and collection charges.	15,414	24,614	27,452	24,780	22,099	22,167
2. Public Safety	12,210	14,557	13,518	16,318	17,546	17,723
3. Establishment charges.	33,210	N A.	N A.	12,924	13,122	4,045
4. Vaccination	532	587	682	689	689	935
5. Drainage and sewerage works.	20,343	25,503	24,941	27,888	43,617	38,849
6. Water-supply and water works.	7,88,112	3,50,025	2,35,261	25,249	1,53,025	1,98,269
7. Conservancy	1,28,394	1,89,652	1,31,952	1,35,685	1,40,276	1,66,188
8 Registration of births and deaths, markets, slaughter houses Medical, etc.	6,710	5,933	9,764	5,635	4,084	4,076
9. Public convenience and public works.	1,35,109	75,623	34,248	34,643	57,464	39,388
10. Public Instruction.	48,004	1,08,792	1,21,861	1,19,853	1,30,310	1,42,250
11. Contribution	4,129	N A.	N A.	500	1,22,348	1,35,939
12. Miscellaenous	1,17,694	96,701	1,63,269	1,20,285	36,337	13,422
13. Extraordinary and debt	44,592	26,926	19,835	15,555	19,603	21,710

SASARAM MUNICIPALITY.

The *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924). page 141, mentions that Sasaram Municipality had 2,959 rate payers and the municipal board consisted of 20 elected and 5 nominated members. The municipality was constituted in 1869.*

Since then there have been some changes. The number of tax payers has increased from 2,959 to 7,760, i.e., 20.5 per cent of the total population of 37,782 according to 1961 census. This municipality was superseded with effect from the 21st July, 1961 vide

* *Shahabad District Gazetteer* (1906), p. 122.

notification no. 6636-L. S.-G, dated the 20th July 1961. Since then the Second Officer of Sasaram subdivision is the incharge of the municipality.

The incidence of taxation per head population during 1957-58 was Rs. 3 as. 11 and 2 pies and in 1961-62 it increased to Rs 6.96. The incidence of income per head population during 1961-62 was Rs 1 69

The municipal board now consists of 23 elected and 4 nominated members. The municipality is divided into 23 wards for election purposes The total area of the municipality is 2 square miles. At present (1964) the municipality is under supersession and a Special Officer has been posted for its administration by the State Government

The following taxes are in force within the municipal area —

Holding tax — (i) 5 per cent on the annual value of the private holdings, and (ii) 10 per cent on the annual value of the Government holdings.

Water tax — (i) 12½ per cent on the annual value of the private holdings and (ii) 7½ per cent on the annual value of the Government holdings

Latrine Tax —4 per cent of the annual value of the holdings. This tax was assessed from the year 1962-63

Educational cess —6¼ per cent on the annual value of the holdings The cess has been imposed from 1962-63.

In addition to the above taxes professional tax has also been imposed The total current demand of the above taxes in 1961-62 was as follows:—

Tax.	Demand (in rupees)
Holding tax	54,285 64
Water tax	1,12,780 77
Professional tax	5,675.00
Latrine tax	.
Educational cess	..

As both the Latrine tax and Educational cess were imposed from 1961-62, no demand has been shown against them

The statement shows the total income and expenditure of the Municipality from 1959-60 to 1961-62 is given below:—

Year.	Income Rs.	Expenditure. Rs.
1959-60	1,87,034.00	1,84,417.00
1960-61	2,41,280.00	2,37,187 00
1961-62	2,55,878 00	1,95,034.00

This statement suggests that the ***expenditure is within*** *the income and leaves a margin of savings.* ***But due to previous*** *liabilities the municipality is not financially sound.* ***The net assets*** *of the municipality on the 31st March 1962 was Rs.* ***6,88,110.00*** *as against the total liabilities of Rs. 12,68,107.* Thus **the excess of liabilities** *over the assets* was up to the tune of Rs. 5,79,997

The collection of taxes and fees seems to be very poor and a very large sum of money has fallen in arrears as will be evident from the table given below:—

Tax.			Arrear on 31st March 1962 Rs.
(1) Holding tax	..	..	1,85,900.00
(2) Water tax .	..	.	4,88,124.00
(3) Fixed demand	..	..	38,100.00
(4) Dangerous trades	..	..	4,576.00
(5) Platform fees	..	..	672.00
(6) Professional tax	..	..	26,127.00
(7) Private vehicles	.	..	152 00
(8) Ekka licence	..	..	20.00
(9) Ekka drivers' fees	..	..	16 00
(10) Town cart ..	..	..	282.00
(11) Food licence	..	..	95 00

The arrear under holding and water taxes alone account for Rs 6,74,024. The reasons for the supersession of the municipality are not far to seek.

Functions.

Road.—The municipality maintains seven miles of *pucca* and six miles of *kachcha* roads. Prior to the supersession of the municipality the condition of the roads was very poor. However, after the supersession about 1,765 ft. of roads was improved and 3,425 ft. of roads was coal tarred. The improvement of the roads, namely, Sher Shah tank to Tilothu road, Raja Bahadur Road to Sher Shah tomb road, Sher Mohiuddin Ahmad road, Grand Trunk Road to Raj Bahadur road, Laskariganj road, Rani Bazar to Taksal Sanghat road, Raja Bahadur road to Chaukhandi road, Karansarai to Sherganj road, Nooranganj road, Lalji Sahai road, Takia H. E. School road and a portion of Raja Bahadur road is essential. The municipality has moved the Government for a grant of Rs. 63,398 for the improvement of these roads.

Drains.—The drains are also in bad condition. They have been constructed long ago and for paucity of fund they are not being repaired.

Water-supply.—The municipality started supplying water from May, 1954. But some parts of the town still do not get tap water.

Buxar Municipality.

The Buxar municipality was constituted in 1869. The *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1906) mentions, "The municipal board consists of 13 members of whom eight are elected and five nominated. The area in municipal limits is nearly 2½ square miles, and there are 2,679 tax payers or 19.2 per cent of the population" * The number of rate payers increased from 2,679 to 2,782 but the number of the members of municipal board was reduced from 13 to 10 out of whom eight were elected and two nominated as mentioned in the *Shahabad District Gazetteer* (1924)†. At present (1964) the municipal board consists of 12 members. The area of the municipality is 3.09 square miles which is divided into 12 wards and the number of rate payers is 2,851, i.e., 12.3 per cent of the total population of 23,068 persons according to 1961 census.

The holding and latrine taxes have been imposed at the rate of 8 per cent and 7½ per cent respectively of the annual value of the holdings. In the early twentieth century the main source of income was property tax. The *Shahabad District Gazetteer* (1906) mentions. "A tax on persons is levied, the assessment being made according to circumstances and property; this tax brought in Rs. 6,530 in 1904-05 out of the total income of Rs 12,710"‡ But now this tax is not in vogue and in lieu of this, holding tax constitutes the main source of income. The total demand of the holding and latrine taxes on 1st April 1962 was Rs 55,468.42 and Rs. 38,470 respectively.

The statement shows the total income and expenditure of the municipality from 1959-60 to 1961-62.—

Year		Income.	Expenditure.
		Rs.	Rs.
1959-60	.	1,10,710.00	1,12,486
1960-61	..	1,22,105 00	1,24,837
1961-62	..	1,53,634 00	1,41,174

The financial position of the municipality seems good. The total assets and liabilities on 1st April, 1962 were Rs. 1 37,380 00 and Rs. 82,816 respectively.

Functions

The municipality maintains 7.25 miles of *pucca* and 1.82 miles of *kutcha* roads, but the condition of the roads is not good The drains are of old type which have no proper level.

* *Shahabad District Gazetteer* (1906), p 121.

† *Shahabad District Gazetteer* (1924), p. 142.

‡ *Shahabad District Gazetteer* (1906), p. 121.

The municipality has seven upper primary schools, six lower primary schools for boys and two primary schools for girls.

The scheme for piped water-supply was sanctioned by the Government but it was not taken up till 1961-62

Dumraon Municipality.

The municipality of Dumraon was constituted in 1869. The *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924)* mentions that the municipality had 2,689 rate payers and the municipal board consisted of ten members of whom eight were elected It further mentions that the area within municipal limits were only two square miles.

The municipality has now (1961-62) a total population of 19,662 persons† out of whom 3,269 (or 16 6) are rate-payers. The number of the members has remained static There are two upper primary girls schools under the management of the municipality

The municipality has imposed holding and professional taxes. The holding tax has been fixed at the rate of 5 per cent of the annual value of the holdings The total current demand under taxes and fees in 1961-62 was Rs. 21,465 out of which the largest demand was under holding tax amounting to Rs. 13,747. The statement below shows the total income and expenditure of the municipality from 1959-60 to 1961 62·—

Year	Total income	Total expenditure.
	Rs.	Rs.
1959-60	52,414.28	56,866.93
1960-61	61,753 86	55,303.46
1961-62	72,350.74	86,625 04

The total assets and liabilities of the municipality on 1st April, 1962 were Rs. 72,772 02 and Rs. 39,041 36 respectively.

The municipality maintains six miles of *pucca* and six miles of *kutcha* roads The condition of some of the roads is not good and they require repairing The municipality has also six miles of *pucca* and 6 miles of *kutcha* drains But the *kutcha* drains do not serve the purpose during rains.

The municipality has provided 13 tube-wells for water-supply. There are a large number of wells in the town which supply drinking water

*District Gazetteer of Shahabad (1924), pp. 142-143

† Census of India, 1961, Vol. IV, Bihar, Pt IIA, General Population Table, page 81

Jagdishpur Municipality.

Jagdishpur village had figured very prominently in 1857 when Kuer Singh, a Rajput zamindar raised the standard of the revolt against the British Government. Kuer Singh, as mentioned elsewhere after leading several encounters in different parts of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh returned to this village. Jagdishpur faced a severe military attack on the British and Kuer Singh died here. The fact that Jagdishpur was given a municipality as early as in 1869 shows that the administration was keen to stabilise Jagdishpur.

In the *Shahabad District Gazetteer* (1906) it was mentioned that the municipal board then consisted of nine members, of whom six were elected and three nominated. The area within the municipal limits was one square mile and there were 1,663 rate-payers or 14.5 per cent of the population. Regarding the receipts and the expenditure the Gazetteer of 1906 mentions, "In 1904-05 the total income was Rs. 5,280 of which the tax on persons (or property tax) accounted for Rs. 3,900 and a tax on animals and vehicles for Rs. 1,100, the incidence of taxation being as low as annas 7-1 per head of the population. The principal items of expenditure were roads (Rs. 1,300), conservancy (Rs 775), and medical relief (Rs. 700)"*.

The Shahabad District Gazetteer published in 1924 mentions that the municipal board consisted of 10 members, of whom eight were elected and two were nominated The number of rate-payers had fallen to 1,534. The decrease is apparently due to the decline in the population of the town. In 1901 the population was 11,451 which came down to 8,924 in 1911 and 8 564 in 1921.

The composition of the board in 1963 continues to be the same as mentioned in the Gazetteer of 1924. The area of the municipality has been extended and now covers five square miles. There are 2,495 rate-payers who constitute 21 07 per cent of the total population of 11,840 persons according to 1961 Census.†

The main sources of receipts of the municipality are holding tax, latrine tax taxes on platform and offensive and dangerous trades. The rate of holding and latrine tax is 6¼ and 3¼ per cent respectively of the annual value of the holding.

The income and expenditure from 1959-60 to 1961-62 are as follows:—

Year.	Income.	Expenditure.
	Rs	Rs.
1959-60 . .	48,059	38,166
1960-61	66,650	41,989
1961-62	84,871	55,180

* *Shahabad District Gazetteer* (1906), page 122.

† *Census of India*, 1961, *Vol. IV*, *Bihar*, Pt. IIA, General Population Tables, page 81.

Though the expenditure during the above three years is less than the income, the financial condition of the municipality is not good owing to previous liabilities. The total assets and liabilities as they stood on the 30th June, 1962 were Rs. 50,347 and Rs. 56,488 respectively and thus the excess of liabilities over assets amounted to Rs. 6,141. This unsatisfactory financial condition is also partly due to poor collection which is evident from the statement given below:—

	1959-60.		1960-61.		1961-62	
	Holding Tax	Latrine Tax	Holding Tax	Latrine Tax	Holding Tax.	Latrine Tax
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.
Total demand	8,504	3,164	10,609	4,862	11,594	5,321
Total collection ..	3,696	1,326	3,975	1,847	4,373	2,151
Percentage of collection ..	22 2	18 8	44.6	47 3	41 6	43 7

The municipality maintains 2 miles of *pucca* and 2½ miles of *kutcha* roads. The condition of the roads is poor. The municipality has also 1,245 ft of *pucca* and 15,020 ft. of *kutcha* drains.

The municipality has sunk 52 wells for water-supply. Besides, there are 99 private drinking wells and seven tube-wells within the municipal area. The municipality has also provided electric light on some of the streets. The number of electric bulbs on the municipal streets and lanes in 1959-60, 1960-61 and 1961-62 was 60, 80 and 96 respectively.

There are 650 private latrines and one public latrine. For sanitary purposes the municipality has employed 14 mehtars, 11 sweepers, two jamadars, four carters and one driver. Sanitary services are reported to be poor.

There are six upper primary and two lower primary schools under the management of the municipality. Besides, the municipality gives aid to four upper primary and three lower primary schools for boys and one lower primary school for girls.

There is no municipal market. There are two slaughter houses. The municipality has not got its own trenching ground and the night soil is deposited in a *parti* land. Civic amenities catered by the municipality are poor. It is understood that the municipal board did not often work as a composite team for the good of the town

Bhabua Municipality.

The Bhabua Municipality was constituted in 1869. The *Shahabad District Gazetteer* (1906) mentions, "There are ten members on the municipal board, of whom one is an *ex-officio* member, six are elected and three are nominated. The area within municipal limits is a little over one square mile. There are in all 1,002 tax-payers of 17.7 per cent of the population, who pay a tax assessed according to their circumstances and property at one per cent of their income. In 1904-05 this tax realised Rs. 2,140, the incidence of taxation being annas 7-3 per head of the population in the municipal area. The total income was Rs. 5,360 and no less than Rs. 2,020 or 41.6 per cent of the direct expenditure, was spent on medical relief, and Rs. 630 on conservancy."* The *Shahabad District Gazetteer* published in 1924 mentioned† that the municipal board consisted of ten members, of whom eight were elected. The number of rate-payers had fallen to 940. The decrease is apparently due to decline in the population of the town. In 1901 the population was 5,660 which came down to 5,452 in 1911 and 5,435 in 1921.

The present area of the municipality is 1.4 square mile and this shows that there has been practically no expansion. The population of the municipal area is 9,890 according to the Census of 1961. The municipal board consists of 11 members of whom nine are elected.

The municipality has imposed holding tax at the rate of 6¼ of the annual value of the holdings. Besides, licence fees for offensive and dangerous trades and platform fees constitute the sources of income. The total demand in 1961-62 under holding tax, licence fees for offensive and dangerous trades and platform fees was Rs. 18,212, Rs. 354 and Rs. 162 respectively.

The statement shows the total income and expenditure of the municipality from 1959-60 to 1961-62.—

Year.			Income.	Expenditure.
			Rs.	Rs.
1959-60	..	..	36,934	38,165
1960-61	..	..	75,037	49,058
1961-62	..	..	54,351	48,649

The total assets and liabilities on 1st April 1962 were up to the tune of Rs. 56,729 and Rs. 53,128 respectively. This indicates the satisfactory financial condition of the municipality.

The municipality maintains 1½ miles of *pucca* and ½ mile of *kutcha* road. The condition of the road and drain is not good. Water-supply is done through wells and tube-wells.

* *Shahabad District Gazetteer* (1906), page 121.

† *Shahabad District Gazetteer* (1924), page 144.

Dehri-Dalmianagar Notified Area Committee.

Dehri was enlisted as a town for the first time in 1941 Census. It came into prominence because of its industrial potentiality which led to the establishment of a number of industrial units. This factor has also been mainly responsible for the rapid urbanisation. In 1941 Census the population of the town was 8,281 persons while in 1961 it was 38,092 (about four times more).* In view of the growing importance of the town it was necessary to constitute a Notified Area Committee. Under Government notification nos. 207 and 208, dated the 23rd May 1941, a Notified Area Committee was constituted replacing the then existing Union Committee.

The Committee has 13 members and it functions under the administrative control of the S. D O who is the *ex-officio* Chairman. The area extends over 3¼ square miles. There are 3,613 holdings.

The Committee maintains 7.73 miles of *pucca* roads in addition to a few *kutcha* roads. The length of the *pucca* and *kutcha* drains is 40,810 feet and 10,322 feet respectively. Some of the roads and drains are in bad condition.

A sum of Rs 2,50,000 was sanctioned as loan by the Government in 1957 for executing the schemes of water-works but the work has not started till 1963. The Committee has provided some wells and tube-wells for water-supply.

The main sources of income are holding and professional taxes, fees for offensive and dangerous trades, and registration fees for carts and other vehicles. The rate of holding tax is 7½ per cent of the annual value of the holdings. The main items of expenditure are public convenience, conservancy, water-supply and public health.

The statements show the receipts and expenditure of the Notified Area Committee from 1960-61 to 1962-63 —

Heads.	Receipts.		
	1960-61.	1961 62	1962-63.
	Rs	Rs.	Rs.
1 Municipal taxes	92,245	88,158	1,37,613
2 Registration and licence fees .	25,044	26,410	27,212
3. Realisation under Special Acts ..	..	193	967
4. Grants and contribution for general and Special purposes.	54,823	1,57,193	62,668
5. Miscellaneous	3,845	6,221	11,711
6. Extraordinary and debts	45,891	60,949	1,97,873
7. Opening balance	1,35,784	1,89,875	1,83,292
8. Total	3,57,632	5,28,999	6,21,326

* *District Census Hand-Book, Shahabad* (1954), p. 9 and *Census of India*, 1961, *Vol. VI*, *Bihar*, Pt IIA, General Population Tables, page 81.

Heads.	Expenditure.		
	1960-61.	1961-62.	1962-63.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. General administration and collection charges.	11,613	13,410	17,167
2. Public safety	13,747	21,914	10,446
3. Public health	78,611	1,16,862	59,374
4. Medical	1,184	1,562	1,154
5. Public convenience	8,156	69,536	28,467
6. Public instruction	15,788	37,048	11,414
7. Miscellaneous	3,267	5,856	17,808
8. Extraordinary and debts	35,042	78,775	1,74,613
9. Closing balance	1,89,895	1,83,292	2,78,383
10. Grand Total	3,57,303	5,28,255	5,98,826

The total assets and liabilities as they stood on 31st March 1963 were Rs. 6,40,165 and Rs. 1,36,802 and thus the excess of assets over liabilities is up to the tune of Rs. 5,03,363. This indicates the good financial position of the Notified Area Committee.

DISTRICT BOARD.

Introduction.

Local Self-Government was sought to be decentralised and made over to the people by the British Government. For this the District Boards were created. In pursuance of this policy the Bengal Local Self-Government Act was passed in 1885. Shahabad District Board was constituted at Arrah in 1887 under this Act. The earliest history of the Board follows the same pattern as in the other District Boards of Bihar discussed in the other District Gazetteers. As in the other Boards in the earlier days road cess was the main source of income. Prior to the formation of the District Board, there was a Road Cess Committee and it was the function of the District Magistrate to see to the maintenance of the roads, culverts, bridges, public sanitation, etc. The *Minute Books from 30th September* 1872 *to* 16*th August* 1886, give the details of the meetings held during this period and give the names of the Chairmen and the members of the District Board. It also mentions the sanction of money for the repairing of roads, culverts, bridges, etc.

With the growth of the ideas and experience it was felt necessary to remove the incidence of bureaucratic control regarding the taxation budget and the sanction of works. It was also felt necessary to widen the franchise and to replace the nominated Chairman by the elected non-official Chairman.

The Board originally consisted of 25 members. The District Magistrate was an *ex-officio* member and the Chairman of the District Board. Out of the other 24 members, five were *ex-officio* members, seven were nominated by the Government and 12 were elected. The Vice-Chairman used to be elected from amongst the nominated members. The franchise was at first restricted to property and other special qualifications. The institution at that stage could not be described as broad-based.

In 1919 the Board got the right of electing a non-official Chairman from amongst the nominated members. Shri Raja Radhika Raman Prasad Singh of Surajpura was the first non-official Chairman (1921-1923)

The constitution of the Board underwent a change. Under the Local Self-Government Act of 1923, the Board came to be consisted of 40 members of whom 30 were to be elected and ten nominated.

The Board elected its Chairman for the first time in 1924 from amongst the elected members and again Raja Radhika Raman Prasad was elected Chairman who remained as such till 1927. In the thirties the branch of the Indian National Congress in Shahabad district came into prominence as a political body and the Congress people started taking keen interest in the District Board politics. A number of congressmen had been elected to the Board who had a somewhat predominating influence for quite a long time. In 1941, the members of the District Board including the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman being the members of the Congress had tendered their resignation from their respective offices in pursuance of the Congress mandate to resign from all such bodies From 1941 to 1948 the Board had a Chairman nominated by the Government. The last election of the members of the Board was held in 1948. The Board as constituted in 1948 continued till it was taken over by the Government on 15th September 1958.

It was held by the Government that the efficiency of the administration of the District Board went on deteriorating and so it became imperative for the State Government to take steps for overhauling the administrative set up. Accordingly, the constitution of the District Board received a set-back by the Ordinance no. VI of 1958 promulgated by the Governor of Bihar. The Ordinance was made under clause (*i*) of Article 213 of the Constitution of India. By notification no. 8001|L. S.-G., dated the 12th September 1958, it

was proclaimed that all the members of the District Board and Local Boards including the Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall vacate their respective offices with effect from the 15th September 1958. In pursuance of this Ordinance all the District Boards including the Shahabad District Board were taken over by the State Government

The District Magistrate of Shahabad took over the charge of the District Board on the 15th September 1958. He handed over the charge to the Special Officer, belonging to the State Civil Service on the 19th March 1959. The post of the Special Officer was redesignated as Administrator, vide Government letter no. 8067-L.S.-G., dated the 1st September 1961. The Shahabad District Board yet functions under the Administrator who works under the State Government in the Local Self-Government Department He is under the administrative control of the District Magistrate There has been a considerable improvement in the administration of the District Board which has been mentioned later. The Administrative officer has been able to make improvements in the Dak and Inspection Bungalows throughout the district (1964) as was found by tours and comparison with the prior conditions.

Finance.

The main source of income of the District Board is the road cess, originally payable by the landlords under the Cess Act at the rate of annas two or twelve Naye Paise for every rupee of the land revenue paid by the tenant and an equal amount by the Government. The road cess used to be paid along with the land revenue and then the road cess was transferred to the Board's funds in the Government Treasury after the deduction of the cost of realisation. After the passing of the Bihar Land Reforms Act, 1950, the Government stepped into the shoes of the landlords and the road cess is now payable by the Government The average annual income from the cess comes to Rs 9,66,095 The other sources of income of the Board are the receipts from the pounds, ferries and other properties The District Board maintains 49 pounds and 12 ferries.

The annual income from the cart tax in 1960-61 and 1961-62 was Rs. 51,876 and Rs. 43,704 respectively. The total income of the Board in 1962-63 was Rs. 23,84,645 as against Rs 27,88,909 in 1961-62. The decrease in the total income in 1962 63 was due to the fact that the two quarterly *ad hoc* grants were not paid by the Government.

Expenditure.

The main items of expenditure are education, medical, public health, civil works, etc.

The statements showing the receipts and expenditure are given here:—

RECEIPTS

Serial no.	Heads.	Years. 1956-57.	1957-58.	1958-59.	1959-60.	1960-61.	1961-62.	1962-63.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1	Provincial rates (Cess, ...	9,52,301	8,60,121	9,25,740	9,40,390	8,79,708	10,78,186	4,53,444
2	Police	180	208	36	32	435	294	45
3	Education	2,000	2,100	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil.
4	Medical	2,66,633	1,92,627	1,12,480	1,80,109	2,54,442	1,61,094	2,09,241
5	Scientific and other minor departments	1,352	1,315	4,872	2,249	10,478	135	Nil.
6	Miscellaneous	2,41,094	1,26,953	2,57,638	1,42,072	2,05,386	1,98,222	87,005
7	Railways	41,936	1,10,963	1,59,078	39,962	19,988	39,973	19,988
8	Civil works	3,98,495	1,51,002	2,09,942	5,39,070	4,37,858	3,32,966	2,88,997
9	Debt, Deposits, advances and loan from the Government.	1,81,019	3,01,780	1,36,212	2,38,774	2,08,456	2,17,716	3,33,115
	TOTAL INCOME ..	20,85,010	17,47,069	18,05,998	20,82,658	20,16,751	20,28,586	13,91,835

EXPENDITURE.

Serial no.	Heads.	Years.						
		1956-57.	1957-58.	1958-59	1959-60.	1960-61.	1961-62	1962-63.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1	Refund and drawbacks (Local rates) ..	78	101	..	..	..	.	..
2	General Administration . ..	1,16,382	1,12,897	1,02,753	76,333	76,461	78,701	83,946
3	Police	3,278	1,113	579	758	4,704	5,901	8,299
4	Education	2,052	1,05,988	2,492	2,02,011	1,58,733	15,741	17,009
5	Medical ..	4,14,409	2,46,866	3,19,608	3,41,181	3,01,288	2,58,741	2,99,957
6	Public Health ..	2,26,020	2 25,129	2,70,288	2,31,832	2,39,981	2,54,081	2,75,248
7	Scientific and other minor departments	43,255	27,454	43,126	45,969	26,411	852	Nil
8	Superannuation allowances and pensions	32,964	30,946	37,298	46,448	32,939	35,428	34,305
9	Stationery and Printing .	29,625	13,740	27,474	23,607	22,575	35,198	29,558
10	Miscellaneous .	9,990	6,422	9,452	5,977	9,329	27,208	7,612
11	Finance Relief (Flood relief) ..	2,082	557	674	344	644	3,242	3,239
12	Civil Works . ..	10,97,419	6,93,695	6,55,647	6,14,436	7,32,124	8,40,338	11,77,560
13	Debt, Deposits and advances including repayment of loans from Government	80,349	2,72,026	1,31,632	1,52,770	2,44,099	2,40,668	3,15,099
	TOTAL .	20,57,203	17,36,936	16,01,023	17,41,616	18,49,288	17,96,099	22,51,832

Education.

The District Board used to construct and maintain school buildings and impart education up to middle standard, but from 1st May 1954 the management of education was taken over by the Government under the Bihar Act VII of 1954 (The Bihar Local Self-Government Amending and Validating Act, 1954) The District Education Fund was created and placed under a Government Officer designated as the District Superintendent of Education He is responsible for day to day administration but in case of appointment, transfer, dismissal and finance, approval has to be obtained from the Administrator of the District Board. If the Administrator differs, the matter has to be referred to the District Magistrate whose decision is final and binding There is a Planning Committee consisting of nine members with the District Magistrate as the *ex-officio* Chairman for looking into the matters of education.

The District Board contributes Rs 4,34,450 annually to the District Education Fund. The amount was fixed on the average of the three years' actual expenditure of the District Board over education prior to 1954 when the management of education was taken over by the Government.

Public Health and Sanitation

Public Health and Sanitation in the rural areas have been the important obligations of the District Board from the very beginning. There is a health staff for preventing and combating epidemics The old pattern of health organisation underwent a change in August, 1952 when the Rural and Urban Public Health Reorganisation Scheme was introduced in the district Under this scheme the health organisation is headed by the District Medical Officer of Health. There are four Assistant Health Officers, one at each subdivisional headquarters, 31 Health Inspectors, one for each thana, 88 paid Vaccinators, one for every 33,000 population and 63 Disinfectors, two for each thana Sanitary arrangements are made when *melas* are held particularly at Brahmpur and Bhaluni (P.-S. Dinara), Noan. Kulharia, Tilouthu, Sinha and Sabhalpur.

The Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 was enforced in the district in 1960-61. Under this Act licence fees at various rates are realised from the dealers of foodstuff in the rural areas and the Board has substantial income from this source. For proper implementation of this Act all the Health Inspectors, Sanitary Inspectors, Assistant Health Officers and the District Medical Officer of Health have been appointed as Food Inspectors. The samples of foodstuff are taken from the shop-keepers and are sent to the Chemical Analyst and if the foodstuff is found adulterated, the shop-keepers are prosecuted and tried under this Act. In 1961-62, 919 cases were tried. The total expenditure over Public Health was Rs 2,37,955. Rs 1,45,948 and Rs. 2,18,238 in 1959, 1960 and 1961 respectively

Medical.

The Board maintains 22 Allopathic, 24 *Ayurvedic*, six *Tibbi* and seven Homoeopathic dispensaries.

The expenditure over medical in 1958-59, 1959-60, 1960-61 and 1961-62 was Rs. 3,19,608.00, Rs. 3,41,131 00, Rs. 3,01,288.00 and Rs. 2,58,741 00 respectively.

Veterinary.

All the veterinary dispensaries under the Board were provincialised by the middle of 1960-61. Hence, now (1963) the Board does not maintain any veterinary staff.

Civil Works.

The execution of the civil works of the District Board is done under the control of the District Engineer The District Board maintains 113 miles metalled, 541 miles unmetalled and 914 miles village roads. It also maintains a press. It has three Dak Bungalows, 17 Inspection Bungalows and four Rest Houses The names of the places where they located are given —

Dak Bungalows—Arrah, Buxar and Sasaram.

Inspection Bungalows.—Dumraon, Bhabua, Mohania, Akbarpur, Nasriganj, Barahpur, Bikramganj, Kochas, Kawai, Chenari, Chand, Tilouthu, Sasaiva, Garhani, Parsathua Karar and Adhaura.

Rest Houses—Khaira, Nokha, Bihea and Piro.

The Government took over the administration of the Shahabad District Board in pursuance of Government Notification nos. 800-L.S.-G. and 8002-L.S-G, dated 12th September, 1958 and the District Magistrate was placed incharge of the affairs of the Board and held charge up to 18th March, 1959 Thereafter officers of the Bihar Civil Service were placed incharge of the administration of the Board.

Shri S. S. Ali Nazir, has been the Administrator since 2nd March 1962. The administration of the Board has been run by the Administrator with the co-operation of the District Engineer, District Medical Officer of Health and the District Education Superintendent. From a review of the working of the Board from 15th September 1958 to 31st March 1962 it appears that there has been considerable improvement.

Finance.—The outgoing Board had left a cash balance of Rs. 5,640.63 only at the credit of the District Fund and a huge amount of liabilities as detailed below:—

	Rs.
(*i*) Accumulated dues of staff due to non-payment of salary and T. A., etc.	82,526.04
(*ii*) Contractor's dues .. .	2,40,632.78
(*iii*) Subsidy and aid to dispensaries, dues of suppliers, Commission of Assessors and Contribution payable to Union Boards.	97,202 99
(*iv*) Arrear contribution payable to District Education Fund.	11,28,539.12

The financial position of the Board, therefore, was very unsatisfactory.

The new administration had to tackle the finance of the Board to clear up the aforesaid liabilities as also to run the future administration of the Board. The liabilities have been cleared up during the period under report and the financial position has improved although it can not be said to be yet quite satisfactory. The present Board unlike the outgoing Board has at the end of every month sufficient cash balance even after providing for one month's expenditure as establishment to meet expenses of emergent nature.

The income and the expenditure from 1956-57 to 1962-63 have been given elsewhere. The previous Executives of the Board consisted of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman of the Board and Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the four Local Boards The expenditure by way of emoluments as Travelling allowances, etc. for these ten incumbents was a considerable drain. There is only one Administrator now in the place of the ten members of the Executive and naturally there is a large saving.

During the period under report the new administration tried hard to improve the financial position of the Board. It is understood that the Government have not yet cleared up the arrear of cess which has accumulated to the tune of Rs. 20,90,414.00 due to which financial position is not improving Besides, cess there are certain revenues which are collected by the Board itself, in which due to special efforts by the new administration, there has been

marked improvement as will be shown by the comparative statement below:—

	1956-57.	1957-58.	1958-59.	1959-60.	1960-61.	1961-62.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Ferries ..	17,816	24,122	14,607	15,034	33,851	38,442
Pounds ..	3,692	3,597	3,017	5,215	5,706	5,225
Bullock cart ..	42,232	45,631	40,267	50,641	51,876	43,704
Rent of buildings and land.	8,866	12,416	11,138	22,533	13,963	13,304
Sales of trees and grass.	2,694	2,001	3,886	4,244	5,001	3,787
Misc. receipt ..	26,176	14,840	21,768	18,666	25,840	32,280
Staging Bungalows	1,641	2,387	3,253	4,448	5,611	6,272
Food licence ..	.	..	..	.	11,015	6,155

The system of licencing foodstuff under the provisions of the Food Adulteration Act has been introduced during the period under review and this has also added the revenue of the Board.

Considerable improvement has been effected by the Board in communication system as also in Dak and Inspection Bungalows during the period under report Some of the undernoted roads have been improved and some are in course of improvement out of the sanctioned allotment of Rs 7,97,280 from the Government and District Board contribution amounting to Rs 3,98,640 for improvement of roads under the Second Five-Year Plan The roads are as follows —

(1) Dumraon-Nasriganj road.
(2) Sakaddi-Akhgaon road.
(3) Piparapati-Bahera road.
(4) Teghra-Sinha road.
(5) Jitaura-Jamuaon road.
(6) Sasaram-Mulhipore road.
(7) Jahanabad Bazar road.
(8) Dhansuin Bazar road.
(9) Mohania Bazar road.
(10) Koilwar Bazar road.

Improvement of Dak and Inspection Bungalows.

During this period the Dak Bungalows at Arrah, Sasaram, Buxar and the Inspection Bungalows at Adhaura, Dumraon, Bhabua and Bikramganj were greatly improved by fixation of sanitary fittings, installation of electricity, replacement of furniture, etc.

The District Board Bungalows at Karar, Chenari, Garhani, Kawai, Parsathua, Brahmpur, Chand, Kochas, Nasriganj, Saraya, Mohania and Akbarpur were partially improved.

The figures will show the improvement to the school buildings:—

Year.	Total amount paid.	No. of School buildings taken up.	No. of buildings completed.	No. of buildings under construction.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.			
1958-59 ..	13,230	10	..	10
1959-60 ..	1,16,579	106	2	104
1960-61 ..	3,54,336	227	17	210
1961-62 ..	1,63,355	57	6	51

Education.—In the field of education special attention was paid by the District Superintendent of Education for the supervision of primary schools. Formerly only one Sub-Inspector of School was posted for one *Anchal* irrespective of the number of schools in the area. But after taking over the charge of the District Board in 1958, one Sub-Inspector of Schools has been posted for every 40 primary schools, and in 1961-62 there were 50 Sub-Inspectors of Schools. In 1958 the number of schools in the district was 4,386 which rose to 5,086 in 1961-62. In 1963 there were 41 middle, 259 upper primary and 173 lower primary schools managed by the District Board and 198 middle, 233 upper primary and 787 lower primary schools which received aid from the Board. In addition to them there were 24 middle schools, 525 upper primary and 887 lower primary schools running under Extension and Improvement Programme (E. I. P. Scheme) and placed under the management of the District Board.

It is unfortunate that owing to mal-administration the powers and functions of the District Board have been recently much curtailed. The creation of the District Education Fund in 1954 under the Superintendent of Education has relieved the District Board from the management of the schools. The provincialisation of Allopathic and Veterinary dispensaries has reduced the work of

the District Board relating to its medical activities. The Public Health Engineering Department has taken the work of rural water-supply which was previously entrusted to the District Board. Similarly, the Public Works Department has also taken a few roads from the District Board.

Now the District Board is going to be replaced by the Zila Parishad The Bihar Panchayat Samities and Zila Parishads Act, 1961 was given effect first in the four districts, Patna, Bhagalpur, Muzaffarpur and Ranchi and thereafter it will be implemented in other districts including Shahabad. A few salient features of the Act may be mentioned here:—

Under the Act every Zila Parishad will consist of the following members: all *Pramukhs* of the *Panchayat* Samities in the district, all members of the Legislative Assembly of the State and all the members of the House of the people whose constituencies lie wholly or partly in the district, all the members of the Legislative Council of the State and of the Council of States who are residents of the district, one person from the Scheduled Castes and one from the Scheduled Tribes, if the population of such castes or tribes exceeds five per cent of the total population of the district and such persons are not otherwise members, three persons to be elected by an electoral college consisting of the Commissioners of the municipalities and the members of the Notified Area Committees in the district, two persons to be elected by an electoral college consisting of the members of the managing committees of all the Central Co-operative Banks in the district, three women to be co-opted if they are not otherwise members and one person to be nominated by the Bihar State Panchayat Parishad.

The member either elected or co-opted is to hold office for a period of three years. An *Adhyaksha* and an *Upadhyaksha* for each Zila Parishad are to be elected by the members of the Zila Parishad from amongst themselves and their term of office is three years from the date of their election.

The important powers and functions of the *Adhyaksha* are to convene and preside over the meetings of the Zila Parishad, to have full access to the records of the Zila Parishad, and to exercise administrative control over the Secretary of the Zila Parishad for the purpose of implementing the resolutions and decisions of the Parishad.

Under the Act the District Development Officer is to be the Secretary of the Zila Parishad and his powers and functions are defined in Section 21 of the Act. He will be responsible for day to day administration of the Zila Parishad.

UNION COMMITTEE.

Previously in this district there were seven Union Committees at Nasriganj, Koath, Dehri, Chainpur, Mohania, Shahpur and Jahanabad who dealt with local roads and sanitation. The Dehri Union Committee, was replaced by a Notified Area Committee as mentioned elsewhere. The Koath Union Committee was also replaced by Union Board in 1949 Thus now (1964) there is only one Union Committee at Nasriganj which is still functioning.

Nasriganj Union Committee.—This Union Committee was constituted in 1920 with seven members. There has been no change in the number of the members The Union Committee functions under the administrative control of a non-official Chairman The jurisdiction of the committee extends over an area of 4½ square miles The area is divided into seven wards.

Nasriganj has been developing as an urban area and it was first treated as town in the 1941 Census and continues as such The population of the town in 1941 Census was 7,817 persons as against 8,741 persons in 1951 and 8,920 persons in 1961 Census.*

The Union Committee maintains some *kutcha* roads It has also provided electric light on the streets There are about 60 bulbs. The committee also looks after the sanitation of the town. It has employed seven sweepers and one Jamadar for cleansing roads, etc The Committee has no dumping ground and the garbage is deposited outside the town or they are sometimes utilised in filling up ditches. Civil amenities are of very poor standard.

The statements show the total receipts and expenditure of the Union Committee for 1961-62 and 1962-63:—

Receipts.

Heads	1961-62.	1962-63.
	Rs.	Rs.
1 Contribution by the District Board	500	2,000
2. Receipts under section 118 of the Act.	2,972	6,209
3 All other receipts . .	2,443	4,893
TOTAL ..	5,915	13,102

* *District Census Hand-Book, Shahabad* (1954), p. 9 and *Census of India* 1961, *Vol. IV, Bihar*, Part IIA, General Population Tables, page 81.

Expenditure.

Heads.	1961-62.	1962-63.
	Rs.	Rs.
1. Establishment	1,250	4,708
2. Village roads	1,777	..
3. Water-Supply	..	3,303
4. Conservancy and drainage ..	2,563	4,229
5. Miscellaneous	4,526	1,367
TOTAL ..	10,116	13,607

Koath Union Board.

An Union was constituted at Koath in March, 1915. It was styled as the Koath Union Board in 1949 vide Government notification no. 14909-L.S.-G., dated the 3rd September, 1949. The Union consists of five members The area of the Union Board comprises the villages, Koath, Nawabganj, Fatehganj and Jogiree Dillia. Civil amenities given by the Union Board are of very poor type.

GRAM PANCHAYAT.

Development of Panchayat.

The *gram panchayats* are not a novel institution. Both in the Hindu period and in the later Muslim period there was a certain incidence of local democracy and a lot of local village administration used to be carried out by the village headmen who had a certain amount of privilege and a good deal of contact with the local administrators. With the establishment of British rule in India, the village communities began to disintegrate for various reasons. The system of administration became more centralised The set-up of judicial and executive administration did not leave much in the hands of the village headmen whose influence and prestige also disintegrated with the spread of education and encouragement of the zamindari system.

It may also be noted here that there were also quite active caste-*panchayats* which looked into certain forms of crimes and social injustices. The caste-*panchayats* also disintegrated with the spread of education, development of the executive and judiciary system and also because the castes gave up their traditional occupations to a very great extent. Caste-*Panchayats* are still active only in such castes which have stuck to their traditional occupations. In Shahabad district there are still active caste-*panchayats* among the *Telis* (oilmen), *Dhobis* (washermen) and *Gonds* (stone workers), etc. It will be noticed that the men belonging to these castes have, by and large, still stuck to their traditional occupations. Even the

Dhobis of Shahabad district who are working in Calcutta as laundry-men are amenable to the orders of their caste-*panchayats* in Shahabad. Usually a caste-*panchayat* has a limited jurisdiction and normally decides complaints against the society. They also give orders which are calculated to maintain the solidarity of the castes. For example, the caste-*panchayats* of the *Dhobis* has decided that the *Dhobis* must not work on a particular day or they should only iron clothes on a particular day.

The Village Chaukidari Act, 1870 (Bengal Act VI of 1870) is a great landmark in the history of the institution of *gram panchayat*. This Act received the assent of the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal and the Governor-General on the 16th June and the 28th September, 1870, respectively. Through this Act an attempt was made to associate the *panchayat* to run the Chaukidari system. Under section 3 of the Act it was provided that the Magistrate of the district would appoint not less than three and more than five persons to be the members of a *panchayat* in any village containing more than sixty houses. The condition of having more than sixty houses for the formation of a *panchayat* was further relaxed vide section 5 of the Act which laid down that on receiving an application from the majority of the adult male residents of a village, it would be lawful for the Magistrate to appoint a *panchayat* in that village without regard to the number of houses contained therein.

The *panchayat* was empowered to determine the number of Chaukidars to be appointed provided that there should be at least two Chaukidars in every village in which there are one hundred and fifty houses and one additional Chaukidar for every complete number of every additional 100 houses. It was also empowered to fix the monthly salaries of the Chaukidars provided that such salaries should not be less than 3 rupees and more than six rupees per month. Later on, the Bengal Act I of 1892 took away the powers of the *Panchayat* and the District Magistrate was empowered to determine the number of the Chaukidars and to fix their monthly salaries. Section XIII of the Act empowered the *panchayat* to impose an assessment yearly for the amount required for the pay of the Chaukidars, together with fifteen per cent above such amount in order to provide for payment of the expense of collection and losses from the non-realisation of the rate from defaulters. All owners or occupiers of houses and any zamindar who had *cutchery* for collecting rents were made liable to assessment. The assessment was to be made according to the circumstances and property of the persons under the limitation that the amount to be assessed should not be more than one rupee per mensem and the persons too poor to pay half an anna per month should be exempted. Under section XXXV the *panchayat* was empowered to appoint chaukidars and also to dismiss him with the sanction of the Magistrate. The Chaukidars had to obey the orders of the *panchayat* in regard to keeping watch

in the village and other matters connected with his duties as Chaukidar. The duties of the Chaukidars were defined in section XXXIV of the Act.

Under Act VI of 1870 the *panchayats* were mere agencies for the assessment and collection of chaukidari tax and to exercise control and administration over the Chaukidars. The *panchayats* did not have any direct participation in the running of the local administration. To be a member of the *panchayat* carried a prestige value but the member *Panch* was more of his own enemy because of the excesses he committed and there would be frequent complaints against him. The Magistracy and the Police acted as a curb. The member *panch* highly appreciated the enquiries referred to them under the Criminal Procedure Code For all practical purposes excepting the realisation of the chaukidari tax, the Chaukidars were placed under the officer of the police thanas and the Magistrate. The *panchayat* also did not always work very satisfactorily and their assessment of chaukidari tax was found very defective. It would often be found that the assessment was made very lightly on rich people because of their mischief value or otherwise. The *panchayat* was hardly the link between the administration and the people and the time-old link of the police still continued.

A major pronouncement in favour of the village institution was made by the Famine Commission in 1880. It recommended that village institutions should be used for village relief work. In pursuance of this recommendation the village agencies were called upon to control famine. But this attempt moved only the village headman and the watchman, who had by that time, been completely identified with the Government machinery. In 1880-81 during Lord Ripon's rule a resolution on Provincial Finance was made in which it was expressed that Local Self-Government should commence at levels lower than those of the District Boards but no reference to the village was made

The other milestone in the history of *gram panchayats* is the enactment of the Bengal Local Self-Government Act, 1885 (Bengal Act III of 1885). The Act provided for the constitution of District Board, Local Board and Union Committee. Under section 38 the Lieutenant Governor was empowered to constitute any village or group of villages into a Union. The Union Committee was to consist of not less than five and more than nine members. The members were to be elected from amongst the residents of the Union and in case the Union failed to elect the full number of the members, the Commissioner was authorised to appoint the remaining. The Union Committee was to function as the agent of and subject to the control of the District Board. The main duties of the Union Committee were to repair and maintain village roads and

bridges and if the fund permits, to make new village roads, to maintain the District Board road falling within its jurisdiction if its management was delegated to it by the District Board and also to manage pounds. It was also entrusted with the management of primary education, dispensary, sanitation, conservancy and water-supply, subject to the control of the District Board. To meet the expenses, under section 56 of the Act an Union Fund for every Union Committee was provided in which all sums realised under section 31 of the Cattle Trespass Act, 1871, all sums assigned by the Lieutenant Governor or District Board as contribution and other sums received by the Union Committee were to be credited. If the income of the Committee was found insufficient to meet the expenses of sanitation, drainage and conservancy, the Committee might impose on the owners of the buildings, tanks, wells or the occupiers of buildings such assessment as may be required approximately to meet the deficiency together with ten per cent above such sum to meet the expenses of collection and losses due to non-realisation from defaulters.

This Act conferred wider powers and provided more duties in comparison with Act VI of 1870. But as mostly the Union Committees consisted of the nominated members and the headmen of the village who were also Government agents, this effort received poor response. It is why in 1902-03 the number of Union Committees was only 57 in the entire Bengal Presidency.

In 1896 and 1897 the Government of India adopted resolutions on Local Self-Government, but these resolutions completely ignored the village. In the session of Indian National Congress held in Lucknow in 1899 Mr. R. C. Dutt, the great economist and administrator from the presidential chair had advocated that the Village Union should be made the real centre of the village administration and the link between the police and the administrator should be done away with. But the suggestion was not implemented then.

The report of the Royal Commission on Decentralisation in 1909 observed, "The foundation of any stable edifice which shall associate the people with the administration, must be the village as being an area of much greater antiquity than the new administrative creations and one in which people are known to one another and have interests which converge on well recognised objects. And it is most desirable alike in the interest of decentralisation and in order to associate the people with the task of the administration that an attempt should be made to constitute and develop village *panchayats* for the administration of local affairs."* The Commission suggested a certain allocation of funds out of land cess and receipts from the village cattle pounds to the village *panchayat* and recommended the re-constitution of the village *panchayat* with powers to try petty civil suits and criminal cases, look after minor village works, control primary schools and to manage fuel and fodder reserves.

* As quoted in Rattan Lal Khanna's book '*Panchayat Raj in India*', p. 8.

The Commission laid down that the village headman should be the *ex-officio* Chairman of the *panchayat* as being *ex-hypothesi* the most influential person in village The Commission also recommended that the members should be elected by the villagers under the supervision of Government officials. The procedure in the *panchayat* courts was recommended to be very simple and the parties should appear in person and not through the lawyer. The appeals should not be allowed, though the regular courts might be given special revisional jurisdiction in cases where it appears to have been failure of justice.

The recommendation of the Commission that the *panchayats* should be completely under the control of the district authorities spoiled the virtue of all what it recommended Dr Annie Besant in her presidential address at the Calcutta Congress in 1917 criticised the Commission's report in the following words: "Tie up a baby's arms and legs and then leave it to teach iteself to walk. If it does not succeed, blame the baby. The free baby will learn equilibrium through tumbles; the tied up baby will become paralysed and will never walk."*

The manner in which the village officials were made dependent upon the higher Government officials was described by her as "the killing of the old village system."

Further, in 1915 the Report on the Bengal District Administration Committee also recommended that the *panchayats* should be invested with the powers to supervise and control the Chaukidars functioning within their local jurisdiction and made suggestions to reform the local bodies on the principle of indirect elections beginning from the village. It was also suggested to entrust local defence to the village *panchayats* with powers of taxation to meet local needs.

This policy of the British Government was implemented in a most half-hearted manner. For example, the recommendations of the Royal Commission were kept in cold storage for six years and very little was done till 1915 when the Government of India left the matter of implementing the recommendations to the Local Governments.

In the background of the halting policy and in view of the resurgence of Indian nationalism following the World War I, the British scheme of *panchayats* could not be implemented successfully.

Following the Montague-Chelmsford Reforms after the World War I, a few nationalists saw in these *panchayat* schemes a great prospect for developing rural India. The enactment of the Bihar

* As quoted in H. D. Malaviya's book '*Village Panchayats in India*', pages [illegible].

and Orissa Village Administration Act, 1922 (Bihar and Orissa Act 3 of 1922) constitutes the most important step towards the development of *panchayat* institution. The main features of the Act are as follows:—

The *panchayat* was empowered to take cognizance of and to try the offences as well as abetment of and attempts to commit any such offence under the sections:—160, 178, 179, 277, 289, 290, 294, 323, 341, 352, 379, 411, 426, 504, 509 and 510 of the Indian Penal Code. It was also empowered to try cases under sections 24, 26 and 27 of the Cattle Trespass Act, 1871 and section 34 of the Police Act, 1862. The *panchayat* was not authorised to take cognizance of any offence under section 379 (*theft*) or 411 (*receiving of stolen property*) of the Indian Penal Code in which the accused has been previously convicted of an offence punishable under Chapter XVII with imprisonment of either description for a term of three years or upwards or has been previously fined for theft by a *panchayat* or is a registered member of a criminal tribe or has been bound over to be of good behaviour in proceedings instituted under section 109 or 110 of Criminal Procedure Code. It was further provided in the Act that the magistrate before whom a complaint of any offence cognizable by a *panchayat* was brought, may transfer the complaint to the *panchayat*. The *panchayat* was empowered to impose fine not exceeding fifty rupees or double the value of the damage or loss, whichever is greater, or in default to sentence to imprisonment not exceeding 14 days In case of *panchayats* specially empowered to take cognizance of and to try cases under sections 379, 411 and 426 of Indian Penal Code, they were empowered to fine not exceeding one hundred rupees or double the damage or loss, whichever is greater or in default to sentence to imprisonment not exceeding one month. The *panchayat* was also empowered to try civil suits (only suits for money due on contracts, suits for the recovery of movable property or the value of such property and suits for compensation for wrongfully taking or injuring movable property) if the value of such suits do not exceed twenty-five rupees Specially empowered *panchayats* might try suits, the value of which was more than 25 rupees but in this case the value of property should not exceed one hundred rupees.

The institution of *panchayat*, however, could not progress much. The main stumbling block was the want of confidence of the villagers themselves in their *panchayats*. It would be only in a rare case that a villager would move the *panchayat* for taking cognizance of an offence he was empowered to take. This was done mostly, if at all, for partisan reasons, i e., where the complaint was almost sure that he would be able to harass the other party through the *panchayat*. It was almost an axiom that if a magistrate taking cognizance of an offence would proceed to transfer the case to the *panchayat* there would have been a protest petition that the *panchayat* was prejudiced for some reason and the other. Village

disputes and caste-factions were often at the background for such petitions. Some of the *panchayats* worked as handimen of the police and that also right or wrong, would often be pleaded for not entrusting the *panchayat* with the trial of such offences. As a result, the *panchayats* were, more or less, utilised by the magistracy to make an enquiry into complaints preferred or for other miscellaneous matters. This gave them a certain amount of prestige and the members of the *panchayat* were quite satisfied with that. As a matter of fact, the very system of a concurrent jurisdiction with the over-riding powers elsewhere worked against the *panchayat* system. It is also fact that the very limited judicial power of the *panchayat* without power of other types could not have made the institution powerful.

The Indian Statutory (Simon) Commission in its report (1930) appreciated the importance of the village *panchayats* and observed that the *panchayat* movement had not made any marked progress It further mentioned that the village *panchayat* was of special interest and importance as being an attempt to recreate the village as an essential unit of Self-Government. However, during the British regime the village *panchayats* wherever formed could not be efficient and effective instruments for Local Self-Government.

The adult franchise that had been given had underlined the importance of village and had released a force of mighty political consciousness in the common men. The success of the Congress Party was mainly due to a well ramified organisation covering the thanas and the villages and the enlistment of villagers as a member of the Congress on the payment of nominal fee of four annas The character of the State and the Central Government also changed and were more attuned to the welfare of the people and the development of the country. It was only natural that with the attainment of independence in 1947 it was felt that the villages can no longer be left to themselves and the question of revising *gram panchayats* was taken up again. The organisation of village *panchayats* was made one of the directive principles of the State Policy in the Constitution of India. Article 40 of the Constitution lays down "The State shall take steps to organise village *panchayats* and endow them with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as unit of Self-Government. This directive principle gives the Constitution of India a national character inasmuch as the Panchayats, the most valuable of the surviving democratic institutions of ancient India, have found a place in the country's Constitution "*

The Bihar Panchayat Raj Act, 1947, received the assent of the Governor-General on the 12th January 1948. It may be mentioned that this Act is not an entirely new piece of legislation and its provisions do not confer wider powers and duties than what were

* Rattan Lal Khanna: *Panchayat Raj in India*, pages 5-6

suggested much earlier by the Royal Commission on Decentralisation in 1909 and also by the Bengal District Administration Committee in 1915.

Generally a *panchayat* under the Bihar Panchayat Raj Act, 1947, is formed in an area which has a total population of 4,000 persons. Normally a number of villages falling within the radius of 2 miles are grouped together under one *gram panchayat.* The *gram panchayat* is headed by a *Mukhiya* who is assisted by an Executive Committee consisting of eight members. Out of eight members, four are elected and four are nominated by the *Mukhiya.* While appointing the members of the Executive Committee, the *Mukhiya* is required to take into consideration the claim of the members of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and females. The term of the office of the *Mukhiya* or a member of the Executive Committee in the case of *Pratham Varga Gram Panchayat, Dwitiya Varga Gram Panchayat* and *Tritiya Varga Gram Panchayat* is for five years, four years and three years respectively.

There is a panel of nine *panches* or members which has a head known as the *Sarpanch.* Four *panches* are elected and four are nominated by a joint meeting of the *Sarpanch,* elected *panches* and all the elected members of the Executive Committee excluding the *Mukhiya.*

A person is considered disqualified for election, nomination or appointment as *Mukhiya,* member of the Executive Committee, *Sarpanch* or *Panch* if such person is under twenty-five years of age, or does not reside in the *gram panchayat* area for at least one hundred and eighty days in a calendar year or is in the service of the Central or State Government or any local authority. A person suffering from leprosy or tuberculosis is also debarred from election. In case a person has been adjudged by a competent court to be of unsound mind, or has been convicted by a court or is in the arrears of any tax, toll, fee or rate due from him to the *gram panchayat,* is also disqualified for such election or appointment.

The Government may remove the *Mukhiya* or any other member of the Executive Committee for misconduct, incapacity or neglect of duty on the recommendation of the prescribed authority.

Gram Panchayats in Shahabad district.

In this district in 1963 there are 815 notified *gram panchayats* out of which 805 *gram panchayats* are functioning. Out of 6,096 villages*, 6.075 villages have been covered by the *gram panchayats.*

* *The Shahabad District Gazetteer* (1924) mentions that there are 6,0[illegible] villages (p. 40) It appears that the figure of 4,729 villages mentioned in the *District Census Hand Book* Shahabad (1954); p. 3 is wrong. *The District Statistical Hand Book* compiled in 1959 gives the break-up as follows:—Arrah Sadar—1,189, Buxar—1,104, Sasaram—2,088 and Bhabua—1,715 villages.

There are 805 *Mukhiyas*, 805 *Sarpanches*, 6,861 members of the Executive Committees and 7,122 *panches*. 559 *Mukhiyas* and 547 *Sarpanches* have so far received training. 778 *Panchayat Sewaks*, out of whom 700 are trained have been posted in the *gram panchayats* of this district. The District Panchayat Officer posted at Arrah looks after the functioning of the *gram panchayats*. He has a supervisory staff to help him. He works under the District Magistrate, Shahabad, Arrah.

The functions of the *gram panchayats* are of two categories, viz., obligatory and discretionary. Under the obligatory functions come sanitation and conservancy, medical relief and first aid, supply of water, cleansing and disinfection of sources of water, maintenance and construction of public streets, protection of village roads and paths, extinguishing fire, taking steps against famine, burglary and dacoity, execution of such schemes in regard to rural development as the Government may direct and the protection and improvement of irrigation works in the village The discretionary functions comprise of the lighting of public streets, primary education, the registration of births, deaths and marriages, construction of wells, ponds, tanks, etc.

In order to enable the *panchayats* to discharge their obligatory and discretionary duties satisfactorily the Bihar Panchayat Raj Act provides that the *panchayats* shall raise a fund, known as *panchayat* fund, by levy of a compulsory tax on persons owning immovable property within their areas. There are other discretionary taxes which the *panchayats* are empowered to levy within their areas, such as licence fee on professional buyer's, brokers, tax on vehicle, etc. Unfortunately, the *panchayats* have not been able to raise the required resource through the levy and collection of the aforesaid taxes with the result that the *panchayats* have not been able to make much headway towards the discharge of their obligatory or discretionary duties out of their own funds. They have, however, tried to give some contribution towards the construction of such schemes as culverts, wells, etc., have been executed in their areas through block and other Government departments on matching grant basis. Till 1963, 956 such development schemes are reported to have been executed through the *panchayats*.

Village Volunteer Force.

A special feature of the Bihar Panchayat Raj Act, 1947, is a provision for the enrolment of all the able bodied males of the village, between the age of 18 to 30 years as members of the Village Volunteer Force under the command of a Chief Officer for general watch and ward and for meeting cases of emergency like fire, breach of an embankment or dam, outbreak of epidemics, burglary and dacoity. In this district 77,636 members of the Village Volunteer Force have been recruited (1963). Some of them known as *Dalpatis* give training to the members.

Out of the 805 functioning *gram panchayats,* 599 *panchayats* have been entrusted with the work of rent collection. In 1961-62 the total demand of rent to be collected by the *gram panchayats* was Rs. 1,22,09,712.45. Out of this sum Rs. 65,15,355.01 was realised. The *gram panchayats* received Rs. 59,325.25 as commission for rent collection.

The total income and expenditure of the *gram panchayats* from 1951-52 to 1961-62 comes to Rs. 10,50,686.01 and Rs. 9,46,584.12 respectively.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

The administration of justice is carried by the *gram kutchery* whose first duty is to bring about a compromise, failing which it takes up the trial The *kutchery* is expected to be a forum for dispensing justice in a cheap, quick and efficient manner. It is expected that the witness deposing before their own kith and kin who are more aware of the facts of the cases would rather give true evidence. But in the administration of justice the *gram kutcheries* have not made much progress. People still prefer to file cases before the magistracy and do not appear to have much faith in the *gram kutchery.* The *gram kutcheries* have not been able to encourage compromise to any substantial degree. Those who want to file cases more to harass the other party would take their cases to magistracy. In the district of Shahabad from 1951-52 to 1961-62, 4,637 suits and 8,294 cases were filed in the *gram kutcheries* out of which 2,037 suits and 5,191 cases only were compromised.

Under section 62 of the Bihar Panchayat Raj Act, 1947, the *gram kutchery* has been empowered to try certain offences as well as abetment of and attempts to commit any such offence under the Indian Panel Code if committed within the local jurisdiction of the *Gram Panchayat.* These sections are 140, 143, 145, 147, 151, 160, 172, 174, 179, 269, 277, 283, 285, 286, 290, 294, 323, 334, 336, 341, 352, 356, 357, 358, 374, 379, 380, 381, 403, 411, 426, 428, 430, 447, 448, 461, 504, 506 and 510. The bench is not empowered to take cognizance of any offence under sections 379, 380, 381 or 411 in which the value of the property alleged to be stolen exceeds one hundred rupees or in which the accused has been previously convicted of an offence punishable under chapter XVII of the Indian Penal Code with imprisonment for a term of three years or more.

A bench of the *gram kutchery* of the *Pradhan of Dwitiya Varga Gram Panchayat* may pass simple imprisonment for a term not exceeding one month or fine not exceeding one hundred rupees and in default of payment of fine, simple imprisonment for a term not exceeding 15 days. The *gram kutchery* of the *Tritiya Varga Gram Panchayat* is empowered to impose fine not exceeding fifty rupees and in default of payment of fine, simple imprisonment for a term not exceeding seven days.

The accused is to be taken to the jail by the village chaukidar and such members of the village volunteer force as the *Mukhiya* may direct and the *Panchayat* has to meet the cost of transfer and escort of a prisoner to the nearest sub-jail. Whenever an offender is sentenced to pay a fine the *Sarpanch* may take action for the recovery of the fine by issuing a warrant for the levy of the amount by attachment and sale of any movable property belonging to the offender.

A STUDY OF THE SASARAM GRAM PANCHAYAT.

An attempt was made to study the working of Sasaram *gram panchayat* now commonly known as Chhoti Sasaram *panchayat*. This *panchayat* is located within Udwantnagar block and has its headquarters at Sasaram village a couple of miles from Gajrajganj accessible by a *katcha* road. The *Mukhiya* is a Rajput and claims to have got 80 per cent of the votes in the last election defeating a Brahman rival. The *gram panchayat* was set up in 1960 and the *gram kutchery* is functioning since 1962.

There is no *panchayat ghar* and the work is being carried out from the residence of the *Mukhiya* One great initial difficulty is the distance of about 18 miles from the village to Udwantnagar the headquarters of the block. Udwantnagar is a sprawling block and the two arms of metalled road connecting the area through Arrah are at right angles.

The *panchayat* seems to be functioning well so far as the judicial side and the collection of rent were concerned. The statistics of the cases are as follows:—

Year.	Instituted.	Disposed of.	Compromised.	Convicted.	Acquitted.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1962	6	6	5	Nil	1
1963	4	3 (pending 1)	3	Nil	Nil.
1964 up to August	1	1	1	..	..

The collection of the revenue of the *panchayat* is as follows:—

Year.	Demand.		Collection.		Total collection.	Percentage.
	Arrear.	Current.	Arrear.	Current.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1962-63	8,977·96	15,331·66	15,179·87	1,501·63	27,680·90	85
1963-64	6,508·74	*12,954 81	5,923·86	1,19,756·20	17,680·06	92

* The demand fell down due to remission.

It is understood that so far 40 mutation cases had been filed and 38 cases were disposed of.

From a very look at the village Sasaram where the *panchayat* headquarters is located the work of the *panchayat* so far as public sanitation is concerned may rightly be questioned. The village is extremely dirty and there is hardly any arrangement for the outlet of wash water. The Harijan area has a well without a proper parapet and it is understood from the *Mukhiya* that his move to get a parapet made with the money from block has failed. The Harijan colony needs improvement.

It was further understood that there are two tube-wells in the village and one of them is out of order since three months. One tube-well was set up by a villager which cannot be worked due to the absence of electric connection. He was asked to set up an *atta chakki* before he could get power and that has also been done. Electric poles have been set up but the power connection has not been given.

CHAPTER XIII.

EDUCATION AND CULTURE.

Shahabad has been known to have a high incidence of education and culture for a long time. Buxar, one of the subdivisional headquarters of the district, is said to have been the home of many of the authors of the Vedic hymns and was called originally *Vedagarbha,* i.e., the womb or origin of the Vedas. It is said that Tulsidas was a resident of Raghunathpur in Buxar subdivision and Vanabhatta, a great scholar in Sanskrit, was born at Pritikuta village on the bank of the river Sone. The village is now known as Peur in Sasaram subdivision. His book *'Harish-charita'* is well-known.

During the reign of Turko-Afghan and Mughal rulers, education through the medium of Persian and Urdu was imparted. *Muktabs* for elementary and *Madarsas* for higher learning were established. These *Muktabs* and *Madarsas* were generally attached to mosques. The *Madarsa* known as *Khankah* of Sasaram is a famous institution of that age. Students from all over India, particularly, Bengal and Assam, used to come here and they were given books, food and other necessary amenities free of cost. At present (1963) the *Madarsa* gives the same facilities to the students.

Regarding education, Buchanan mentions, "In this district I heard of three Maulavis who instruct pupils in Arabic science and Persian literature. There is no public institution for the purpose, nor do the Maulavis give their pupils food. Shershah established a Mudruseh or college in Rautas, but it has been long deserted.

"The office of Kazi is hereditary and sometimes, of course, neither ably nor uprightly filled. In flagrant cases of corruption they have been dismissed. The Kazis are attached to pergunahs, and not to the modern divisions of police, which occasions some inconvenience."*

Buchanan, however, mentions the popular belief to be that learning on the part of the females was regarded as a cause of widowhood. He mentions, "Ten or twelve Hindu ladies have acquired the dangerous art of reading and writing letters and about so in Karangja can sign their name and understand an accompt but these acquirements are considered by the grave as improper, and by the childless widowhood of two ladies of Tilothu, who not only write a fair hand, but understand the poetical effusion of Tulsidas, is attributed to the divine wrath irritated by their presumptuous

* *An Account of the District of Shahabad* in 1812-13 by Francis Buchanan published in 1934, page 172.

search after the forbidden fruit of knowledge".* From Buchanan we could deduce that the Ramayana of Tulsidas was very popular throughout Bihar and also that the educated ladies were also familiar with Tulsidas.

Regarding the introduction and progress of the schools during the British rule, W. W. Hunter mentioned that education had made little progress in Shahabad, as was the case generally throughout Bihar. The number of Government-aided schools increased from eight in 1856-57 to thirteen in 1870-71, and the number of pupils in the same period from 354 to 589†.

The *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) mentions, "Even by the year 1860 there were only fifteen schools with 569 pupils; but after 1870 there was a great extension of primary education, many indigenous *Pathshalas* being brought within the scope of the departmental system, and in 1872-73 there were 5,133 pupils attending 315 schools. By 1883-84 the number of pupils under instruction had 20,883; and though the attendance fell 16,922 in 1892-93, it had again grown by 1901-02 to 22,962 pupils studying in 914 schools".‡

INCIDENCE OF LITERACY.

The following table shows the progress of education (number of literate per 10,000) from 1881 to 1931**:—

Year.			Males.	Females.
1881	..	..	760	20
1891	..	..	950	20
1901	..	..	3,491	129
1911	..	..	3,902	173
1921	..	..	4,023	219
1931	.	..	4,010	276

The total number of literate persons during the last three decades is as follows§:—

Year.		Males.	Females.	Total.
1941	..	2,27,260	24,295	2,51,555
1951	..	3,10,882	41,553	3,52,435
1961@	..	5,83,017	1,17,748	7,00,765

* *An account of the District of Shahabad* in 1812-13 by Francis Buchanan published in 1934, page 172. This may have been an exaggeration.

† W. W Hunter's *Statistical Account of Bengal*, Vol. XII, page 260.

‡ The *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), page 146.

** Figures compiled from the *Census of India*, 1931 (Vol. VII), Bihar and Orissa Part I Report by W. G. Lacey, I.C.S., page 227.

§ *Census of India*, 1941, VII, Bihar, page 97 *District Census Hand-Book, Shahabad*, page 84.

@ *Census of India*, 1961, Volume IV, Bihar, Part II-A, General Population Tables, page 405.

The *District Census Hand-Book of Shahabad,* 1951, made a distinction between the literate and the educated persons. According to it the persons who can read and write but have not passed the middle or any higher examination have been treated as literates and the persons, who have passed the middle and higher examinations, have been shown separately for each grade or standard which is as follows*:—

	Persons.	Males.	Females.
Middle School ..	60,803	57,056	3,747
Matriculation, School Leaving Certificate, Higher Secondary.	9,631	9,166	465
Intermediate (Arts or Science)	1,457	1,328	129
Graduates (Arts or Science)	546	521	25
Post-graduate (Arts and Science).	111	109	2
Teaching	543	489	54
Engineering	44	44	..
Agriculture .. .	9	9	..
Veterinary	9	9	..
Commerce	132	128	4
Medical	320	305	15
Legal	772	772	..
Others	86	69	17

The category 'Others" includes those who have passed the examinations such as *Prathama, Madhyama, Sahityaratna, Visharad, Alim-Fazil,* etc.

If we add the total number of persons under the above different categories to the number of literates the total of literate and educated persons comes to 4,26,892 as against 7,00,765 in 1961† Census.

The separate figures of literates or educated persons under different categories for the 1961 Census have not yet been published.

From an analysis of the above tables it appears that there has been a gradual increase in the incidence of education from 1881 to 1921. The Census of 1931 showed a drop. The reasons are not understandable particularly when the total population in 1931 was 19,93,489 as against the total population of 18,14,229 persons according to the Census of 1921. There was an increase of 1,79,260.

* *District Census Hand-Book of Shahabad,* 1951 (1954), pages 84—97.

† *Census of India,* 1961, Volume IV, Bihar, Part II-A, General Population Tables, page 406.

Normally, the number of literates should have gone up for males as it has gone up for the females.

The incidence of literacy and education has been increasing in almost arithmetical order since 1941. The number of literates and educated persons in 1941* was 2,51,555 which rose to 7,00,765 in 1961. This speaks of the rapid progress in literacy and education.

Girls' Education.

The first girls' institution known as the Jain *Kanya Pathshala*, was started by Brahmcharini Pandita, Smt. Chandabai Jain, known as *Maji*. She was the first lady in this district who devoted her entire life for the cause of girls' education. At a time, when the *Purdah* system was observed strictly, Smt. Chandabai used to go to the *Pathshala* in covered *Palki* to teach the girls herself.

Afterwards she started an *Ashram* known as Shri Jain Bala Vishram in 1921 for the widows and orphans Women and girls from all parts of India come and reside here. In those days they were taught Hindi (e.g., *Visharad, Sahityaratna* courses) and Sanskrit as well as handicrafts, *charkha*, etc.

Gradually, in the year 1934, she started Shri Jain Bala Vishram Middle School to enable the girls of the town and the adjoining villages to be educated on modern lines. Afterwards on the pressure of the guardians of the town and the district, she started a high school known as Shri Jain Bala Vishram High School in 1954.

The above schools are still working with a very good reputation in the district.

The first *Pathshala* of the district for the girls is still working which is situated near the Mandir of Shanti Nath on the Jain Road in Arrah. The other two institutions are situated in the compound of Shri Jain *Bala Vishram* on the Arrah-Koilwar road—2½ miles away from the town but the strength is increasing every year and has reached the number above six hundred students.

Smt. Chandabai took an active part for the welfare of women and girls. She is the President of the All-India *Digambar Jain Mahila Parishad* as well as the Editor of the *Jain Mahila Adarsh*, a monthly paper.

The incidence of girls' education in Shahabad district, however, is not very high. In 1910-11 there were two primary schools and fourteen upper primary schools. In 1921-22 the number of upper primary schools was two but the number of lower primary schools rose up to 66. In 1955-56 the number of primary schools rose up to

* *Census of India*, 1941, VII, Bihar, page 96.

282 with 19,991 scholars. The following table shows the progress of education amongst girls since 1955-56 to 1962-63*:—

Years	Primary			Middle.			High			Basic		
	Schools	Girls	Teachers	Schools	Girls	Teachers	Schools	Girls	Teachers	Schools	Girls	Teachers
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1955-56 .	282	19,991	332	8	1,490	51	1	402	12	[illegible]	823	4
1956-57	294	21 663	394	9	1,824	57	1	403	15	3	911	6
1957-58	311	23,859	421	9	2,127	56	1	453	16	3	983	6
1958-59	317	36,114	375	9	2,700	75	2	522	13	8	1,645	8
1959-60	326	37,978	391	10	3,553	69	2	446	19	16	2,052	21
1960-61	343	43,253	435	10	4,451	65	5	401	19	17	4,006	48
1961-62	347	48,022	494	11	[illegible]	55	5	786	26	17	4,502	50
1962-63 .	366			22		.	8			17	..	

* Supplied by the District Inspectress of Schools, Shahabad

EDUCATION AMONG THE SCHEDULED CASTES, SCHEDULED TRIBES AND BACKWARD CLASSES.

The population of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes in district according to the 1951 Census was as follows*:—

	Males	Females.	Total
†Scheduled Castes ..	1,79,632	1,87,826	3,67,458
Scheduled Tribes ..	8,814	8,179	16,993
Backward Classes ..	1,52,389	1,63,373	3,15,762

The population statistics of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes according to the 1961 Census are not yet available. The District Welfare Office in Arrah could not supply the authoritative or approximate break-up statistics. The Block Development Officers are reported to have got statistics of their population in their respective Blocks but the Block figures were not available in the office of the District Welfare Officer. There is no reason to think that the figures have declined since 1951. At the request of the Editor the District Magistrate promised to make a Census

The Scheduled Tribes are distributed under Rohtas, Adhaura, Nawhatta, Bhabua, Chainpur and Bhagwanpur blocks The Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes are distributed throughout the district For the welfare of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Communities, the State Government have appointed one District Welfare Officer, one Assistant Welfare Officer and 18 Welfare Inspectors. These officers have the duty to spread education amongst the Harijans, Adivasis and the members of the other Backward Communities.

To encourage education among the members of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Communities, the State Government have arranged to give them stipends and book-grants and exemption from school fees. Stipends and book-grants are allowed to the students of the middle and the secondary schools belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes through the District Stipend Committee constituted by the State Government for this purpose Such students in colleges are awarded stipends and book-grants through the State and Central Stipend Committees.

To remove the social disabilities of the Harijans and the other Backward Classes, the State Government passed the Bihar *Harijans* (Removal of Civil Disabilities) Act in 1947. The word *Harijan*

* *District Census Hand-Book of Shahabad* (1954), pages 76-77.

† The Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes have been described on the Chapters 'People' and 'Social Services and Public Life'.

had been coined by Mahatma Gandhi so that the Scheduled Caste people should not feel offended. The word '*Harijan*' is a combination of two Hindi words *Hari* and *Jan* which means the people of God. The *Harijans* include Dhobi, Dusadh, Chamar, Dome, Halalkhor, Pasi, Musahar, Nat, etc., who form the lowest rung in the caste-hierarchy and were given a very bad social deal and were normally taken to be "untouchables" by "the higher castes". They have been treated as the Scheduled Castes in Census Hand-Book of 1951. The problem can only be met by more of social consciousness among the classes other than the *Harijans*. There is also a certain degree of apathy on behalf of the *Harijans* to assert their rights under this Act.

It may be mentioned that the majority of the *Harijans*, Adivasis and Backward Classes who belong to the class of landless labourers are quite unable to meet the expenses of the education of their children. The State Government have decided to bear practically the entire expenses of the depressed classes on education.

There are 25 primary schools for the Scheduled Tribes and 30 primary schools for the Scheduled Castes in this district. During 1962-63, Rs. 22,382 were given to 169 students of the Scheduled Tribes and Rs 4,02,369 to 6,722 students of the Scheduled Castes. The details will be found on the chapter 'Social Services and Public Life'.

PRIMARY, MIDDLE AND SECONDARY (HIGH AND HIGHER) EDUCATION.

In order to fit our educational system within the larger framework of National Development Planning, a complete departure has been proposed from the existing pattern of education in the district as well as in the country. The entire educational programme has been split up into three major divisions. The first one is the Elementary Basic Education for the students of the age-group 6 to 13. This is to be followed by four years of the secondary education for the age-group of 13 to 17. Secondary education is to be followed by a three-year of college or university education.

The first stage, namely, the elementary education, is sought to be made compulsory for all the children This will comprise instruction in tool subjects with equal emphasis on the growth of the mental faculties as on the development of manual skill and character qualities. The principal aim of the elementary education is the minimum discipline of mind and body essential for the average citizen of a progressive country committed to democratic socialism.

The primary education is primarily meant for giving knowledge of three R's, i.e., reading, writing and arithmetic and it is for the age-group of 6 to 11.

The middle education is meant for elementary knowledge of all the subjects and it is for the age-group of 11 to 14.

The aim of the secondary education is partly an all-round general, intellectual, moral and social development of the adolescents for which the courses include a number of compulsory subjects. In addition, there are a good number of variety of electives that can match with the special talents, skills, interests, aptitudes and temperament of the individual students. Some of these courses prepare for the higher studies at the university stage. Others will equip a person to enter a suitable occupation or join a pre-vocational training course. The schools that provide only the academic courses, namely, science and humanities, are to be designated as the higher secondary schools. Those schools that offer also one or more vocational courses, like agriculture, technical, fine arts, etc., are to be designated as the multipurpose schools. All Government secondary schools are to function as the higher secondary multipurpose schools. Private schools have the option of converting themselves into the higher secondary or multipurpose higher secondary provided they satisfy certain requirements laid down by the State Government.

Primary Education.

Primary education is the responsibility of the local bodies having jurisdiction in the area, i.e., the municipality in the towns and the District Superintendent of Education supervises the primary and middle schools in rural areas.

As regards the progress of primary education, W. W. Hunter mentioned that in 1871-72, the number of Government and aided schools was 47, and rose in 1872-73 to 207, the number of pupils increased from 1,572 to 4,173, while the cost of the State decreased from £ 588 11s in 1871-72 to £ 562 4s 2d. in 1872-73 and the total expenditure in the Government and aided schools from £ 1,368 4s. 10d. to £ 1,057 11s 3d He further mentioned that besides these, there were in 1872-73, 123 private unaided schools attended by 1,771 pupils*.

Regarding primary education, the last District Gazetteer (1924) of Shahabad mentioned that in 1922 there were only twenty-three primary schools for boys in the district Including girls in boys' schools there were 1,260 girls at school in 1910 11, 2,292 in 1920-21 and 2,182 in 1921-22 The number of girls in boys' schools was falling steadily in 1921-22 as compared with 1920-21†.

There has been a considerable expansion of primary education since 1924 In 1953-54 two important steps with far-reaching consequences were taken. The first is the enforcement of the Expansion Improvement Programme Scheme, which helped the problem of

* *W. W. Hunter's A Statistical Account of Bengal*, Vol XII (1877), page 280.

† *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), page 148

the educated unemployed, and established schools in the district on an equitable distribution basis, keeping in view the areas and the population for whom these schools were meant. The second is the promulgation of the Local Self-Government Amending and Validating Act, 1954, which had put an end to the system of administration in the field of education under the District Board to a considerable extent. Before 1954, the primary schools in the rural areas were controlled both by the District Board and officers of the Education Department. The powers of the local bodies in the matter of payment, etc, were vested with the District Superintendent of Education (Elementary) who was later designated as District Superintendent of Education.

The following table supplied by the District Education Office, gives the statistics from 1955-56 to 1962-63:—

Years		Number of schools		Number of scholars		Number of teachers.	
		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Males	Females.
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
1955-56	..	1,681	282	1,03,540	19,991	2,928	234
1956-57	..	1,712	294	1,06,460	21,663	3,024	251
1957-58		1,731	311	1,04,718	23,859	3,039	221
1958-59		1,899	317	1,24,769	36,114	3,161	240
1959 60	..	2,067	326	1,32,820	37,978	3,549	237
1960-61		2,146	343	1,41,285	43,253	3,672	433
1961-62	..	2,214	347	1,51,569	48,022	3,782	475
1962 63	..	2,313	366	..	..	.	..

MIDDLE SCHOOLS.

Regarding the middle schools, the *District Gazetteer* (1924) *of Shahabad* mentioned that the Middle English schools were all under the management of local committees, eight of which received grants from Government while five were unaided. Of the middle vernacular schools, thirteen were directly managed by the District Board and one was aided by that body*.

The control of the middle schools was entirely transferred to the District Board in 1925. After the promulgation of the Local Self-Government Amending and Validating Act, 1954, the District

* The *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), page 148.

Superintendent of Education in the district had been made responsible for the control, management and payment to the middle and primary schools in the Board area. The control of such schools by the Local Boards of the respective subdivision did not have a salutory effect and was rightly terminated. A District Education Fund was opened in which the contribution of the District Board and the Education Department was to be pooled together and the expenditure was to be incurred out of the fund.

The following table supplied by the District Education Office shows the expansion of the middle schools from 1955-56 to 1962-63:—

Years	Number of schools.		Number of scholars		Number of teachers	
	Boys	Girls	Boys.	Girls	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1955-56 ..	232	8	25,505	1,490	1,117	51
1956-57 .	243	9	26,695	1,824	1,169	57
1957-58 .	260	9	28,600	2,127	1,198	56
1958-59 ..	264	9	33,803	2,700	1,231	75
1959-60 .	277	10	36,274	3,553	1,192	69
1960-61 ..	290	10	37,778	4,451	1,274	65
1961-62 .	305	11	38,235	5,268	1,276	55
1962-63	321	22			.	..

Secondary Education.

Certain specific defects have grown out of the system of secondary education in vogue during the years 1854—1882 The mother-tongue was completely neglected as a medium of instruction and very little was done to train teachers for the secondary schools The courses of study had become too academic and unrelated to life mainly, because there was no provision for the vocational or technical courses One further defect that had taken a concrete shape, was that the matriculation examination began to dominate, not only the secondary education but even the system of education in primary schools

In 1882, an Education Commission, known as the Hunter Commission, was appointed by the Government to enquire into and report on the entire question of education in the country The Commission was directed to look into the quality and character of the instruction imparted in schools

Since it was very costly for the Government to maintain the secondary schools, it was thought that the entire responsibility of the primary education should be taken over by the Government and that of the secondary education should be left to the private enterprise The Commission recommended that the secondary education should be provided on the grant-in-aid basis and that the Government should withdraw as early as possible from the direct management of the secondary schools. The recommendations were not, for some reasons or other, implemented.

During 1882–1902, there was a considerable expansion in the field of secondary education. It was partly due to the enthusiasm of private enterprise and partly due to the system of grant-in-aid.

The system of education in vogue, however, made the problem of unemployment all the more acute as the Universities were thrown open to all the types of students and most of the boys who passed through the Universities were fit for white collared jobs only. Technical education was at a low premium and manual labour or crafts came to be despised In later years, attempts had been made to meet this problem. From time to time different committees have been formed at various levels to go into this question. One of them was the University Education Commission in 1948 under the Chairmanship of Dr S Radhakrishnan now the President of the Indian Republic The Commission recommended that the standard of admission to the University courses should correspond to that of the present Intermediate examination, i e, after 12 years of the study at the school and Intermediate college The Commission thought that neither the public nor the Government had realised the importance of Intermediate colleges in the Indian educational system and remarked that, "our Secondary Education remains the weakest link in our educational machinery and needs urgent re-inforcement"

Till the formation of the Secondary School Examination Board in 1951, all the secondary schools were under the control of the Patna University and the Matriculation Examination was conducted by the Patna University

The *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) mentioned* that there were nine high schools in the district at that time The Arrah Zila School was maintained by the Government and there were aided high schools at Arrah, Buxar, Sasaram and Surajpura There were also three un-aided high schools at Arrah and one at Dumraon, the latter was supported by the Maharaja of Dumraon

The figures from 1955-56 to 1962-63 supplied by the District Education Office have to be looked into to mark the progress of secondary education The figures are given below —

Years.	Number of schools		Number of scholars		Number of teachers	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Males	Females.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1955-56	99	1	29,904	402	1,096	12
1956-57 ..	108	1	32,481	403	1,386	15
1957-58	117	1	35,172	453	1,458	16
1958 59	116	2	3,754	522	1,536	33
1959-60 .	128	2	42,382	446	1,611	19
1960-61 .	120	2	38,522	401	1,239	9
1961-62 ..	138	5	44,385	786	1,351	26
1962-63 ..	138	8	.	.		.

* The *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), page 148.

The expansion in the number of institutions or the number of scholars does not necessarily mean that education is being spread on a solid footing. On the other hand, there is complaint that the expansion has brought out the output of quarter-baked scholars under half-baked teachers. The standard has suffered grievously. There are quite a few reasons for the bad turn-out. There has been a frequent change in the policies adopted, the syllabus have been changed too frequently; the text books are changed almost every year, the number of compulsory subjects to be studied has undergone changes and even the very medium of language through which teaching has to be imparted has altered. The number of subjects now taught to the students is far too many, the number of languages which has to be learnt is more than two There has not been a simultaneous expansion in the number of teachers. The teachers' training schools are not many and they are badly staffed, poorly equipped and are not able to turn out the proper type. The teacher's profession has also lost much of its previous charm—the pay-scale is still poorer than that of many other incumbencies. A young man now will think of taking to a teacher's job as a profession almost as a last resort after he has not been able to secure a job elsewhere The spirit of sacrifice and dedication often repeated as a characteristic of an ideal teacher must remain more on paper. It is not possible with the economic pressure to work as a teacher honestly if the pay is poor and no teacher will appreciate as to why he should be the only man to tighten his belt. All these reasons go to make up the present trends when the schools are turning out thousands of students, most of whom are not disciplined or properly educated.

Higher Secondary and Multipurpose Schools.

In the higher secondary schools teaching is done in some cases for a period of three or four years depending upon the period of nature and courses of study required The higher secondary schools have been formed by the addition of one year which is taken from the Intermediate stage of the university.

Under memo. no. 11|54-05|58-E.—1451, dated 8th May 1958, the State Government accepted the recommendations of the Secondary Education Commission including the conversion of high schools into higher secondary schools for the introduction of diversified courses in such schools. The Government selected 25 and 22 non-Government high schools for conversion into multipurpose higher secondary and higher secondary schools respectively. There is a difference between the higher secondary school and the multipurpose school In a multipurpose school diversified courses are followed and different crafts are taught. The idea is to make it a craft-centred school whereas a higher secondary school is not to be made craft-centred school. The State Government insists on some

conditions before the non-Government higher secondary and multipurpose schools in granting recognition. Some of them are—

(1) There should be a justification for the recognition of the school in either category in view of the topography of the area, the strength of the pupils, etc., and the recognition must not create any unhealthy rivalry among the neighbouring schools.

(2) The Managing Committee should be constituted according to the rules in force. The Committee will make rules regarding the admission, rates of tuition fees, transfer and appointment of teachers, etc

(3) The schools should have at least 320 pupils in case it is a four-class school and 450 pupils in case it is a six-class school.

(4) The financial position of the school should be sound with at least Rs 5,000 in the Reserve Fund and Rs. 5,000 in the General Fund. The school should be regular in paying the teachers according to the approved scales of pay. There must be Provident Fund for the teachers.

(5) The school should have at least ten acres of land in not more than two blocks of which at least one block of five acres at the school site. The school providing for agriculture as a vocational subject group should have at least 15 acres of land

(6) The school should have a well equipped library.

(7) The school should have an average of 66 per cent of passes at the Secondary School Examination with a good percentage of first division.

The following schools have fulfilled the above conditions and have been recognised by Government as higher and multipurpose schools:—

Name of schools	Date of recognition as higher and multipurpose school.
Higher Secondary School, Sasaram	1959
Sri Shankar Higher Secondary School, Takiya.	1959
Higher Secondary School, Premnagar	1962
Higher Secondary School, Dehri-on-Sone	1959
Higher Secondary School, Mohania .	1961
Higher Secondary School, Ramgarh ..	1961
Higher Secondary School, Dalmianagar	1959
Higher Secondary School, Budhwal .	1962

Name of schools.	Date of recognition as higher and multi-purpose school.
Higher Secondary School, Surajpura	1959
Higher Secondary School, Koath	1959
Bikramganj Higher Secondary School, Bikramganj.	1959
Barkaganjpur Higher Secondary School, Barkaganjpur.	1962
Balihar Higher Secondary School, Balihar	1961
R. B. Higher Secondary School, Buxar	1962
Raj Multipurpose Higher Secondary School, Dumraon.	1959
Higher Secondary School, Barhampur ..	1962
Higher Secondary School, Buxar	1962
Bihea Uchcha Madhyamic Vidyalaya, Bihea	1961
H. N Kshatriya Higher Secondary School, Arrah.	1960
Zila Higher Secondary School, Arrah	1960
Arrah Town Higher Secondary School, Arrah	1959
Jain Bala Vishram Higher Secondary School, Arrah.	1959
Higher Secondary School, Virahimpur	1961
Higher Secondary School, Tilauthu	1959
Higher Secondary School, Dumri	1962
Multipurpose Higher Secondary School, Bhabua	1959
Government Girls' Multipurpose Higher Secondary School, Arrah	1959

A brief description of some of the schools in the district is given:—

Arrah Town Higher Secondary School, Arrah

It was established in 1882 and got recognition in the same year. It was upgraded to higher secondary school in 1959 In 1963, there are 717 students and 21 teachers in the school. There are 7,000 books in the library The school has a N C.C.* unit.

Raj Multipurpose Higher Secondary School, Dumraon.

It was established in 1866 and got recognition in 1879. It was upgraded to multipurpose higher secondary school in 1959. In 1963,

* National Cadet Corps.

there are 912 students and 25 teachers in the school. There are two N. C C. units and one A C C.* unit. The school library has 2,000 books.

H. N. Kshatriya Higher Secondary School, Arrah.

It was started in 1917 and got recognition in 1919. In 1963, there are 1,259 students and 35 teachers The school library has 6,000 books There are three N. C C. and three A.C C. units in the school.

Model Institute, Arrah.

The High School was established in 1917 and got recognition in 1919. The school library has 4,000 books There are N. C C. and scouting units in the school In 1963, there are 1,036 students and 24 teachers.

Higher Secondary School, Nasriganj

This school got recognition in 1931 two years after being started. It was upgraded as higher secondary in 1963. In 1963, there are 631 students and 18 teachers The school library has 2,000 books. There is an A. C. C unit in the school

Government Girls' Multipurpose Higher Secondary School, Arrah.

It was established in 1935 due to private efforts and was known as the Arrah Girls' High School It was provincialised in 1949 and became a multipurpose higher secondary school in 1959 In 1963, there are 525 girls and 18 teachers including a Lady Principal There are 1,300 books in the library

Arrah Catholic High School, Arrah.

The Catholic Mission of Arrah runs this school established in 1952. There are 450 students and 15 teachers in 1963 Only science subjects are taught in this school It is a residential school There are 1,200 books in the school library. The school has an enviable reputation.

Dalmianagar Higher Secondary School, Dalmianagar.

The school got recognition in 1940, a year after it was started. It is managed by the Rohtas Industries, Limited There are now 1,582 students and 48 teachers There are 2,087 books in the library. There are N. C. C. and A. C C. units in the school

Higher Secondary School, Dehri-on-Sone

It was established as high school in 1924 and recognised in 1925. It was upgraded to higher secondary standard in 1959. There are now 536 students and 22 teachers in the school. There are 2,467 books and N. C. C. and A C. C units

* Auxiliary Cadet Corps.

Multipurpose Higher Secondary School, Sasaram

It was established in 1875 and got recognition in 1880 It was upgraded to higher secondary standard in 1959 There are [illegible] students, 23 teachers and 2,670 books in the school There are A. C. C and N. C. C. units in the school.

Multipurpose Higher Secondary School, Bhabua

It was established in 1920 and got recognition in 1924 It was upgraded to higher secondary standard in 1959 There are now [illegible] students and 25 teachers in the school. There are 3,200 books in the library. There are N. C. C and scout teams in the school.

Buxar Multipurpose Higher Secondary School, Buxar.

It was started in 1887 and was upgraded to higher secondary standard in 1962. There are now 1,096 students and 22 teachers in the school. There are 6,005 books in the library. The school has N. C C. and A. C C. units.

Sri Jain Bala Vishram Girls' High School, Arrah.

It was started in 1954 by Shrimati Chanda Bai, a philanthropic Jain lady of Arrah and got recognition in 1957. It is managed by Jain Bala Vishram Trust There are 259 students and 13 teachers in the school. The school library has 2,300 books and a N. C C unit

Maharani Usha Rani Girls' High School Dumraon

It was started in 1957 and got recognition in 1962. It is managed by the Dumraon Raj Charitable Trust There are 70 girls and 6 teachers in the school. The school library has about 2,000 books on different subjects.

Sri Shankar Higher Secondary School, Takiya.

The school was established in 1944 and got recognition in 1947. It was upgraded to higher secondary standard in 1959 There are 1,196 students and 27 teachers and the school library has 1,400 books on different subjects and there is also an A. C C unit.

Ram Dahin Mishra High English School, Garhani.

It was established in 1942 by Sri Ram Dahin Mishra of village Pathar and got recognition in 1946 In 1963, there are 700 students and 18 teachers and the school library has 2,510 books. There are three units of N. C. C. in the school.

Behia Uchcha Madhyamic Vidyalaya, Behia.

It was established in 1932 and got recognition in 1934 It was upgraded to higher secondary school in 1961. In 1963, there are 780 students and 18 teachers in the school. The school library has 2,000 books. There are two A C. C. and two Scout units in the school

Hari Narayan Uchchangal Vidyalaya, Shahpurpatti

[illegible] school was started by Sri Hari Narayan Singh in 1938 as [illegible] school It was raised to the status of a high school in [illegible] and got recognition in 1941 In 1963, it has 685 students 20 teachers There is co-education in the school The school ...ary has 3,000 books. There are three units of A C C

Swarath Sahu High English School, Jagdishpur.

It was established in 1927 by Shri Swarath Sahu, a businessman of Jagdishpur. It got recognition in 1930 by the Government. In 1963, it has 700 students and 17 teachers. There is co-education. There is a library with 2,000 books.

Piro Madhyamic Vidyalaya, Piro

It was established in 1947 and got recognition in 1950 At present (1963) there are 600 students and 17 teachers The school library has 1,200 books and there are three A. C C units*.

The total number of the secondary schools (both high and higher secondary) is 170 in the district. The area of the district is 4,408 square miles So it works out that there is one school in 25 square miles. The Sadar subdivision has the largest number of such schools while Sasaram subdivision comes second There are 28 such schools in Buxar subdivision while Bhabua subdivision has got only 15 such schools The number of such schools exclusively for girls is rather small There are three such schools in the Sadar subdivision while Buxar and Sasaram subdivisions have two each There is only one such school in Bhabua subdivision Quite a large number of schools have co-education

COLLEGE EDUCATION

Patna University had jurisdiction over all the colleges of the State of Bihar before the formation of the Bihar University. The Patna University was an affiliating university Even before the formation of the Bihar Secondary School Examination Board, the Patna University used to conduct the Matriculation Examination But since the number of schools and colleges increased enormously, the Bihar Secondary School Examination Board was constituted in 1951 with the responsibility of conducting Matriculation Examination Later on the work of the Patna University was bifurcated between the two universities, viz, Patna and Bihar in 1951 The Patna University has jurisdiction over the colleges within the area covered by the Patna Municipal Corporation and it is a residential-*cum*-teaching university. The Bihar University had its headquarters

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* Shahabad district has got a large number of such institutions The above description should not be taken to mean that the other schools are not important (P C R. C)

at Patna and was mainly created as an affiliating university and had jurisdiction over all the colleges of the State of Bihar excepting that of Patna Later on in 1960 two more universities were created by the State, namely, Ranchi University with its jurisdiction over the whole of Chotanagpur Division and the Bhagalpur University with its jurisdiction over the whole of Bhagalpur Division The headquarters of Bihar University was shifted to Muzaffarpur.

In 1960 the Act relating to the Patna University was amended and accordingly its jurisdiction was extended over the colleges of Patna Division. But in 1962 again the rules of the university were amended and the Patna University became a teaching university as it was before Later on in April, 1962 one more university was created by the State, namely, the Magadh University with its head quarters at Gaya. Its jurisdiction is over the Patna Division excepting the colleges within the area of the Patna Municipal Corporation

The following colleges of Shahabad district are under the control and management of the Magadh University since April, 1962:—

H. D. Jain College, Arrah.

Shri Har Prasad Das Jain College was established on the 21st January, 1942 In 1919 the late Shri H. P Jain gave a donation of Rs. 60,000 for the establishment of the college Up till now the college has received Rs. 1 55,000 from the Adi Nath Trust in donation. In 1945, the late Sri Vijaya Pratap, the Maharaja of Dumraon donated 22 bighas of land to the college The college is affiliated **up to the degree** standard in Science, Commerce and Arts.

In 1963, there are 3,200 students and 70 lecturers in the college There are about 28,000 books in the library There are also five units of the National Cadet Corps and Rifles

Jagjivan College, Arrah

It was established on the 14th October, 1959 by the public donation and was named after Sri Jagjivan Ram who comes from Shahabad district and was previously the Communications Minister at the Centre The college is affiliated up to B. A standard. There are 15 lecturers out of whom six are part-time and nine are whole-time lecturers There are 200 students in the college The college library has about 1,000 books on different subjects and has a unit of N. C C R

Maharaja College Arrah

This college was founded on the 13th September, 1954 it started functioning at first in the local *Nagiri Pracharini Bhawan*, but it was shifted to its own building known as the Judges bungalow This commodious building with ample compound was donated by the Maharaja of Dumraon by a registered deed on the

16th November, 1955. Another double storeyed building known as the Arrah House was given to the college by the Central Government and it is being utilised as the library and the staff room at present. A double storeyed building, known as the Maharaja building adjacent to the college premises, has been given to the college by the Maharaja of Dumraon on lease. It is used as a hostel. The college was affiliated up to the Intermediate standard in Arts in 1955. In 1956 it was affiliated up to the B. A. standard. In 1957 it was affiliated up to I Sc. standard and in 1960 it was affiliated up to B.Sc. standard. There are Honours courses in three subjects, namely, English, Hindi and Economics since 1961.

At present (1963) there are 30 lecturers and about 1,700 students in the college. There are 1,500 books in the library.

Mahanth Mahadevanand Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Arrah.

This college was established in 1959 by the efforts of Mahanth Mahadeva Nand Giri of Kawal Chapra Mathia of P.S. Barahara and others. At present (1963) there are 12 lecturers out of whom eight are permanent and four are on temporary basis. There are 120 students in the college. There are about 1,600 books on different subjects in this college. The number of N. C. C. Cadets is about 80.

There are several other colleges, namely, Bishwamitra College, Buxar, S. P. Jain College, Sasaram, Bikramganj College, Bikramganj; D. K. College, Dumri, Bhabua College, Bhabua and Jawahar Lal College, Dalmianagar.

So far as the number is concerned, Shahabad district has got quite a few. Once a college is started, there is no dearth of students. But it cannot be said that the proper standard of teaching is being maintained. In some of the colleges the very large number of students is a handicap and there is hardly a living contact between the teachers and the taught. There is very little of discipline in most of the colleges as is commonly complained. Many of the colleges in the rural areas are badly equipped and poorly staffed. The students that are graduating are, as a class, very poorly equipped for the world. These observations are, however, not meant for the colleges in Shahabad district only. The multiplicity of the colleges has been done at the cost of the quality of the students produced. A college is not a factory and thousands of students in a college can hardly allow any standard being maintained.

The introduction of N. C. C. and N. C. C. R. units is a very timely move to instil ideas of discipline and self-help. It is a pity this training is not insisted on as a compulsory requisite.

Basic Education

The object of the Basic education system at the elementary stage is to impart education through socially useful productive activities

like spinning, weaving, gardening, carpentry, leather work, pottery, elementary engineering, domestic crafts, etc. The main idea is to teach the boys some useful crafts along with the three R's so that they could be useful to the society even if they do not go to the colleges. As a matter of fact, it was expected that the spread of this system of education will cyphon off a good percentage of boys who crowd the colleges and the universities without much purpose. Efforts in the field of the Basic education are confined at present to introduce in the non-Basic primary schools such important features of Basic education as do not entail heavy expenditure Orientation programmes for the officers entrusted to look after the administration of primary and Basic education and primary school teachers are being implemented to reduce the difference, to the extent possible, between Basic and non-Basic schools All the Teachers' Training Institutions for elementary school teachers, are being progressively converted to the Basic type

The Post-Basic schools are started for the pupils who have been educated in the Junior and Senior Basic schools to continue their secondary education along the Basic lines Since these institutions are aimed to be established by the voluntary organisations their syllabus and curriculum are different from those of the traditional secondary schools

Students who pass out of these schools, however, meet with difficulties both in pursuing their higher studies and in securing employment It is difficult to say that the system of Basic education has made a lasting contribution It is still in an experimental stage It is complained that the students are attracted to the Basic schools because of the scholarships offered and do not follow the crafts they learn as profession The trainees complain that they are usually rated much lower when they want a job for which they are qualified. It is also difficult to get the proper type of teachers for these schools.

The Basic institutions are controlled by the District Education Officer, whereas the Deputy Superintendent of Basic Education supervises the Basic institutions and is the technical adviser to the District Education Officer With the implementation of the Expansion Improvement Programme Scheme in 1958-64 some traditional schools were also converted into the Basic institutions and some new Basic schools were also started This gave rise to the number of Basic schools The financial drain on the State exchequer for continuing this system of education has been very considerable and many eminent educationists and public men have expressed their diffidence in the way the Basic education is being imparted. Dr Zakir Husain, Ex-Governor of Bihar and now Vice-President of India was one of the originators of this system of education. Dr. Zakir Husain has recently (1963) deplored the way Basic education system has been organised and has said the objectives are not being implemented

The following table shows the expansion in number of the Basic education-institutions from 1955-56 to 1962-63 which includes Senior Basic, Junior Basic and Post-Basic schools in the district:—

Years	Number of Schools						Number of Scholars.						Number of Teachers					
	Junior Basic		Senior Basic		Post-Basic		Junior Basic		Senior Basic		Post-Basic		Junior Basic		Senior Basic.		Post-Basic	
	Boys.	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys.	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Males	Females	Males.	Females	Males	Females.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
1955-56	96	1	35	.	.		6,065	823	4,888	494	..		234	4	220	4		
1956-57	109	3	40		.		7,677	911	6,172	486	.	.	251	6	278	6	.	
1957-58	109	3	40		2	.	6,380	983	6,296	630	138		221	6	289	6	9	..
1958-59	115	5	58		2		7,875	1,645	9,497	1,195	158	3	246	6	292	6	10	
1959-60	189	5	59		3		9,549	2,052	9,533	1,855	876	2	237	8	365	10	24	
1960-61	304	16	59	.	1		15,919	4,006	10,093	1,500	269	8	433	21	367	9	9	.
1961-62	338	17	60		2		17,090	4,502	10,275	1,653	389	15	475	48	376	7	20	
1962-63	338	17	61		2		N A			.					N A	N A.	N A.	

N A No available.

SOURCE.—The District Education Office, Shahabad.

Technical Education.

There are seven technical institutions in the district. They are as follows*:—

	No. of students (1962).	Expenditure.
		Rs.
1. Dehri Technical Government Institution, Dehri-on-Sone	259	92,016
2. Government Agriculture School, Arrah.	100	18,472
3. Commercial School, Sasaram	52	3,981
4. Royal Commercial Institute, Arrah	150	6,239
5 Buxar Commercial School, Buxar	36	2,031
6. Arrah Industrial School, Arrah	17	13,553
7 Dumraon Commercial School, Dumraon	150	Not available

The district can have certainly many more of such technica schools. The district is being industrialised and needs a lot o trained technical hands.

Professional Education.

Teachers' Training Schools form an important wing under th professional education.

In 1950-51 a reorientation of the system of teachers' trainin was found necessary and the courses were modified so as to brin them nearer to the Basic system of education The Elementar Training Schools were re-named as Junior Basic Training Schools.

The training period of the Junior Basic Training School wa extended from one year to two years In addition the Senior Basi Training Schools were opened where two years' course was impl mented from the very beginning. The candidates with the minimu qualification of a pass in the middle standard were admitted in th Junior Schools while the matriculates were admitted in the Seni Basic Training Schools. In 1961, the distinction between the Seni and the Junior Training Schools was removed. At present there a seven Teachers' Training Schools, located at Behia, Piraot Dumraon, Bhabua, Mohania, Sasaram. Sasaram has one such inst tution for boys and another for girls.

* The figures have been supplied by the District Education Office, Shahab

The following table shows the number of professional schools in the district from 1955-56 to 1962-63:—

Years	Number of schools		Number of scholars.		Number of teachers.	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Males.	Females.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1955-56	4	..	376	14	19	..
1956-57	4		356	32	13	..
1957-58	4	.	394	51	21	.
1958-59	4		347	75	23	..
1959-60	5		677	193	32	1
1960-61	6	1	1,005	245	46	2
1961-62	6	1	1,195	173	61	4
1962-63	6	1	N A	N A.	N A	N.A.

SCHOOL FOR CULTIVATION OF FINE ARTS.

In 1914 one music school was started at Arrah which trains students in music and dancing. This institution has had an enormous progress due to the drive and personal interest of Shri Satrunjay Prasad Singh *alias* Lallanji who was himself a well-noted *Mridang* player. Shri Lallanji himself trained the students in music and dancing and spent hundreds of rupees personally. His untimely death has been a very great blow to the school.

More details of the school have been given elsewhere.

The privately managed *Shilpa Kala Kendra* at Arrah provides training in embroidery, knitting, etc., to the girls Besides, the high schools for girls also impart training in music, dancing, painting and drawing.

EDUCATION FOR THE HANDICAPPED, DEAF, DUMB AND BLIND.

The Deaf School at Arrah was established in 1959. There are now six students (four boys and two girls) and one teacher. They are taught Hindi, English and some handicrafts. It gets an annual grant from the Central and State Governments. In 1962 it got Rs. 1,300 from the Centre and Rs. 700 from the State Government. The school is located in a rented building. There are no schools for the dumb or the blind or the handicapped otherwise.

ORIENTAL EDUCATION.

Sanskrit *Vidyalayas* or *Tols* prepare candidates for ***Prathama***, or *Madhyama*, *Shastri* and *Acharya* examinations. Primary Sanskrit schools teach Sanskrit in addition to the departmental vernacular curriculum in reading, writing and arithmetic up to the lower or upper primary standard. The Sanskrit *Tols* are controlled by the Bihar Sanskrit Association, Patna. The *Tols* get financial aid from the State.

There is a Sanskrit High School at Arrah established in 1948. There are now 63 students and seven teachers (1963). It is affiliated to the Bihar Sanskrit Association, Patna. The medium of the teaching is Hindi in all classes but the two compulsory subjects, namely, *Nyaya* and *Jyotish* are taught in Sanskrit After passing the matriculation examination students are eligible for admission in the Sanskrit College, Muzaffarpur.

So far as the Islamic institutions are concerned *Madarsas* prepare candidates for the examination held by the Madarsa Examination Board, Patna and diplomas are awarded. These schools are aided by the State.

There is an old and well known *Madarsa* at Sasaram which is known as the *Khankah*. Muslim students from all over India particularly from Bengal and Assam come here. The medium of instruction is Urdu Students are prepared for *Maulvi*, *Alim* and *Fazil* examinations in this institution.

The following table shows the number of the aided Sanskrit *Tols* and *Madarsas* in the district from 1955-56 to 1961-62:—

Years	Sanskrit *Tols*			*Madarsas*.		
	Number of *Tols*	Number of scholars	Number of teachers	Number of *Madarsas*	Number of scholars	Number of teachers
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1955-56	62	1,512	123	5	348	38
1956-57	63	1,648	144	5	453	38
1957-58	63	1,736	150	5	433	38
1958-59	63	1,595	150	5	446	38
1959-60	62	1,879	150	6	598	39
1960-61	61	1,948	148	6	583	39
1961-62	61	1,948	148	6	586	39

SOCIAL EDUCATION.

In 1937 during the first Congress Ministry, a literary campaign had been started from the Education Department. This scheme was not much of a success. With the resignation of the Congress Ministry there was a set-back in whatever was being done. A comprehensive scheme has been again sponsored since 1948 by the State Government to spread literacy and to make the common man's life pleasant and useful The centres for imparting literacy and general knowledge with audo-visual aids have now been linked up with all the Community Development Blocks throughout the State. There are also other youth organisations for boys and girls. These centres or organisations are expected to hold literacy and music classes and demonstration for village welfare work. Particular attention is expected to be paid to the women folk in the village and to try and make them useful mothers, sisters and citizens. Most of the centres are in the school buildings or in the offices of the gram panchayats or the co-operative societies. The State Government are spending a large sum on the centres for providing books, musical instruments, equipments, etc. There is a Social and Youth Welfare Officer at Arrah who is the incharge of social education. He is under the control of the Directorate, Social and Youth Welfare, Bihar, Patna At present (1963) there are centres at Sheoganj, Shital Tola, Awar Pool, Tari Mohalla and Maula Bagh in Arrah town.

The following figures show the expansion of adult education or social education centres in the district for the last eight years:—

Years	Number of centres		Number of enrolments	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
1955-56	380	30	750	6 30
1956 57 ..	410	32	N A	N A.
1957-58 .	427	40	N A.	N A.
1958-59 ..	434	40	1,050	773
1959-60 . ..	440	103	N.A.	N. A
1960-61	405	120	1,705	1,916
1961-62	337	132	4,526	1,930
1962-63 . ..	450	135	4,638	1,998

An investigation was made at the adult literacy centres at Mohalla Shital Tola, Maulabagh and Meerganj within Arrah town in the month of October, 1963.

The Shital Tola Night School was started in the month of August, 1962 with ten students mostly belonging to the Mushar caste. It is running in the house of one Bishnath Kumhar. At the time of investigation it was found that the school was closed due to the illness of the teacher. From the attendance register it appeared that during the month of August, 1963 there were twenty-five students which increased to thirty-five in the month of October, 1963. The investigators learnt that from August, 1962 to August, 1963 near about 98 persons have been made literate. The environs are not encouraging The centre is running in a small room with no furniture. There is only one teacher. The school has a black-board and a chair. The students generally sit on the floor. No equipments or aids were seen.

The Maulabagh Mahila *Sikhsha Sudhar Kendra* was started in 1962. It is meant for ladies. At the time of investigation five girls were found in the centre. Up till now this centre has made five ladies and 90 girls literate.

This centre is functioning in a small room and there is no proper arrangement for reading.

The Mirganj centre was found closed. It was gathered that the teacher was generally absent. This centre is in a Harijan *tola* This centre is not properly running as stated by the local inhabitants. The investigation in the centres did not show that much useful work was being done It is not known if the number of people made literate is correct or not. It is doubtful if the money spent is being properly utilised.

Drills, gymnastics, sports and outdoor games have been a regular feature in the educational institutions from a long time past. Owing to the very large number of students in most of the schools, a very small percentage of the students can possibly take advantage of the facilities. Many of the schools have no playground and are not well equipped either.

Physical training is also given in the girls' schools where provisions for games are encouraged. The A C. C. and N. C. C. units, boy scouts and girl guides have been financially helped by the State Government.

The district has a Deputy Superintendent of Physical Education to look after the physical education programme in the educational institutions and physical training centres (*akharas* and *vyamshalas*).

Scouts and Girl Guides.

The Scout Association was established in 1923 in this district. The scouts and the guides were particularly trained to do social service and the boy scouts and girl guides gave an excellent account of themselves in the *melas* and fairs and on other occasions.

Previously there were two district associations, one under the Scout Association and the other under the Hindustan Scouts and Guides running separately. In 1950 both the associations were amalgamated at a higher level and they merged in the district also. The organisation is now known as the Bharat Scouts and Guides Association.

Training is given and the holding of camps is encouraged. In 1961-62, 1962-63, nine and eleven camps were organised respectively in which 716 and 1,094 scouts respectively participated. The details will be found elsewhere.

AUXILIARY CADET CORPS, NATIONAL CADET CORPS AND NATIONAL CADET CORPS RIFLES.

Military training is sought to be imparted to students under the control of the 53rd Bihar Battalion National Cadet Corps with headquarters at Arrah. The Senior Division of N. C C. is meant for the college and school students while the Junior Division is meant only for the school students. Since 1961, a new unit, viz., National Cadet Corps Rifles has been started in colleges. There are N. C. C. and N. C. C R. units in H. D Jain College, Maharaja College, M M. College and Jagjivan College. In the N. C. C. R. units training is given to handle the rifles.

In July, 1963, the total number of cadets in these colleges was 4,700 There is still a wide scope for the progress of the movement. The N C C R. unit is under the management of 59 N C C. R. and 71 N. C C. R. with headquarters at Patna. There are A. C. C. units in several schools of the district.

The main aim of the National Cadet Corps is to develop ideas of comradeship, service and leadership in young men and women Another aim is to provide service training to young men and women and to build up a reserve of potential defence. Parades and frequent camps are held to keep the cadets in force.

LITERARY ACTIVITIES.

Some years back the district published a number of Hindi magazines which were of a high literary standard. Some of them were *Nagri Hitaishi Patrika, Manoranjan, Sahitya Patrika, Bal Keshri, Saptahik Shahabad* Unfortunately they have had a short life.

Some monthlies, namely, *Gaon-Ghar, Bhojpuri, Nagrik*, etc., are now published from Arrah. They have a very limited circulation.

Shahabad district has produced a number of noted Hindi writers. They have been mentioned in the discussion on Bhojpuri literature elsewhere. Urdu writers also have been mentioned separately.

There are now a few literary societies for the encouragement of Hindi literature Two of them, namely, the *Nagri Pracharini Sabha* and the *Arya Samaj* have done a lot of useful work.

LIBRARIES.

Regarding libraries the *District Gazetteer of Shahabad** mentioned that there were five public libraries and literary societies in the district The most important was the *Nagri Pracharini Sabha* at Arrah, which aimed at improving the Hindi language. Two of the other institutions were the public libraries at Arrah but neither was of special importance. But now (1963) the number of literary societies and libraries has increased.

Arrah at one time had a number of good private libraries belonging to the cultured Zamindar families and middle class families.

The Central Jain Oriental Library commonly known as *Jain Sidhanta Bhawan* or *Saraswati Bhawan*, was started in 1903 by Sri Deo Kumar Jain of Arrah He executed a Trust called Deo Kumar Jain Trust setting apart a net income of Rs 2,000 per annum and the deficit, if any, was met by donation The library has 12,000 printed books in several languages, 8,000 manuscripts on palm leaves as well as on paper on Jain religion, astrology, *Ayurved*, *Vyakaran*, written either in Kannad, Pali or Sanskrit Some of them are very rare After studying 18 manuscripts in this library a book called *Ram Katha* was published by a German Scholar C. Bulchyand. The *Rishav Jain Library* of London has also been borrowing books from this institution for research and publication Besides these, the library contains old stamps, specimens of fine arts, ancient coins, etc. The *Jain Sidhanta Bhaskar* was started in 1911 as a quarterly Journal but in 1934 it was turned into a half yearly journal. Research articles by eminent scholars are published in the journal.

The State Government had adopted *Arrah Nagri Pracharini Sabha* established in 1901 as the District Central Library. There are 15 000 books in various languages including valuable manuscripts and a number of periodicals are also subscribed.

The main aim of the *Nagri Pracharini Sabha* is to spread the Hindi language to resuscitate and preserve the old manuscripts of the district. The Sabha has also been publishing good literature.

The *Bal Hindi Pustakalaya* established in 1910 at Arrah, is also an important library in the district There are 8,000 books on different subjects.

There are a few other libraries and some of them are the *Azad Library, Arrah, Saraswati Pustakalaya, Buxar, Jagdish Public Library, Jagdishpur, Qidwai Urdu Library, Koilwar,* and *Jag Narain*

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), p. 149.

Pustakalaya, Waina. All the colleges and schools have their own libraries. The H. D. Jain College Library is very well equipped. There are about 582 libraries in the district which receive aid from the Government.

It is, however, unfortunate that the libraries are not well utilised. It appears that many privately-owned libraries get Government patronage.

An enquiry was made by two investigators.

At *Bal Hindi Pustakalaya* it was found that the average number of daily visitors for six months, i.e., from April, 1963 to September, 1963 was only 63 persons and the average number of books daily issued was 20. Out of these books 12 were Hindi novels, two English novels, five books on Hindi literature and one on other subject.

The newspapers found in the reading room were the *Indian Nation*, the *Searchlight*, the *Hindustan Times*, the *Statesman* in English and Hindi newspapers like the *Aryavarta*, the *Pradeep*, the *Nav Bharat Times* and the *Vishwa Mitra*. There were no Urdu and Bengali newspapers

Weeklies like the *Blitz* (English), the *Illustrated Weekly* (English), the *Dharmayuga* (Hindi), the *Saptahik Hindustan* (Hindi), *Yogi* (Hindi) appear to be more popular The monthly magazines like the *Span* the *Commonwealth*, the *Link*, the *Sahitya Sandesh* and the *Navneeta, etc.*, are subscribed Most popular among the Hindi and English weeklies were *Blitz*, *Dharmayuga* and *Saptahik Hindustan* and the *Illustrated Weekly*.

At *Nagri Pracharini Sabha Pustakalaya* the number of average daily visitors was 88 persons The average number of books daily issued was 25 Out of these 25 books 75 per cent were Hindi novels and other Hindi literature 10 per cent English literature and novels and 15 per cent miscellaneous books. The readership at this State library where there are several colleges was very poor

The *Sugga Devi Pustakalaya* is attached to the *Arya Samaj Mandir*, Arrah and is a public library At the time of investigation two daily newspapers, namely, the *Aryavarta* and the *Searchlight*, four religious weekly papers and three monthly magazines were found in the reading room

There were near about 3,000 books on various subjects.

The number of average daily visitors was only 12 and the number of average books issued was 13 (mostly religious books)

MUSEUM.

There is no State-sponsored museum in the district. A large number of antiquities of Shahabad has been removed to the Patna Museum. The Central Jain Oriental Library at Arrah has a small collection of old coins, objects of art, stamps and manuscripts.

CHAPTER XIV.

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES.

SURVEY OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND MEDICAL FACILITIES IN EARLY TIMES.

This district has got a few clear-cut natural divisions. This has been discussed in the text 'General'. The topography of the district naturally has its impact on the general health of the people. Generally speaking the people of the plains enjoy a better incidence of health. The hilly and the forest areas have an extreme climate, poor facilities of good drinking water and a much lower standard of medical and public health services The economic incidence of the people has also its effect on the general health. By and large the economic incidence of the inhabitants in the hilly and the forest regions is poorer The plains have a much better outturn of crops; the canal-irrigated area offers a rich rice bowl and the people are economically more stable.

The district was created in 1765. Dr. Hamilton Buchanan, the first historio-geographer of the East India Company had toured through Shahabad district in 1812-13 and his account of the district of Shahabad has now been published*. In spite of the fact that he had to depend on hearsay to a large extent his report is the first recorded survey of the district and gives some information regarding the public health and medical services in those times.

Prior to this it appears that the *Vaids, Hakims, Jarrahs* and witch-doctors were the sources of medical help. The *Vaids* and *Hakims* were schooled in *Kaviraji* and *Yunani* systems of medicines respectively and were dependent on traditional and indigenous medicinal herbs. The occupation of the Muslims must have given an encouragement to *Yunani* system There was another class of people known as *Jarrahs* who treated ulcers and skin troubles either with the help of indigenous drugs or with knives. The oils and ointments of the *Jarrahs* are still in demand but to a smaller extent. The barbers used to conduct minor operations with knives, etc. The Kaimur plateau and the forest regions were rather inaccessible and contained a large number of the aboriginals and the semi-tribals (as they still do), and the people of this area had a great belief in witchcraft To them the diseases were manifestations of the wrath of the spirits that rule their destiny. Wherever there is belief in witchcraft there are witch-doctors. This area had their indigenous witch-doctors who believed in incantations, quaint ceremonies and practices. Not much is known of the

* *An Account of the District of Shahabad* in 1812-13 (Bihar Research Society, Patna).

incidence of public health but there can be no doubt that the general incidence must have been very poor.

Francis Buchanan has given a description of the medical facilities as they existed in the district in the beginning of the 19th century. There were two Brahmins who not only taught medicine but were actual practitioners. The Unani physicians among the Muslims, had no public teacher, but were educated as private pupils. Besides these, Buchanan heard of 103 Brahmins who practised medicine. There were five Muslim practitioners who pretended to be followers of Galen and Hippocrates. There were about 40 *Jarrahs* who treated sores. The midwives, besides cutting the umbilical chord, treated pains and tumours of the abdomen About 2,000 men and 100 women pretended to possess the art of incantation; about 400 men were employed to cure snake-bites; and about 400 of the men called Bhakats took the devil to themselves when they expelled him from their patients. The number of small pox vaccinators was only 30, and they found the people unco-operative.*

Dr. Hamilton Buchanan's report has some reference to the indigenous herbs. He mentions**—

> "............Having at Patna heard that a great many of the medicinal herbs used there came from the woods of Jagdishpur, I took with me a *pasari* or druggist. and on my arrival near the woods, hired one of the Cheros† who collect drugs to accompany him, all time that was near these forests. They made daily excursions in search of herbs, but added little to my stock of knowledge. The plants were not in flower, and, what was worse, the two authorities often differed, which convinces me that in the investigation of the native materia medica the utmost caution is necessary to prevent mistakes that may be of a very fatal nature. For the reasons mentioned in the account of Behar, I do not think it necessary to enter into the details of this subject. There remain to be mentioned a few plants that are applied to various purposes."

As a medical man, Buchanan's interest in the indigenous herbs and his scepticism are understandable. It may be mentioned that Jagdishpur area had extensive forests which were cleared about four decades after.

Shahabad district had figured prominently in insurrections of 1857. After normalcy was restored the British administration considered that it was very necessary to cut down the jungles, open more communications and to offer better medical facilities for

* *An Account of the District of Shahabad* in 1812-13, pages 174—76.

** *An Account of the District of Shahabad* in 1812-13, page 261.

† The Cheros are an aboriginal tribe now claiming to be Rajputs. They have been discussed elsewhere (P. C. R. C.).

stabilising the Government. A few hospitals and dispensaries were opened. The towns that were the headquarters of the subdivisions and the district were given the first hospitals and dispensaries. The facilities were extended slowly to the more populous villages.

W. W Hunter gives reliable information regarding the medical facilities in the later times. He mentions in his Statistical Account of Bengal* that in 1872 there were six charitable dispensaries in Shahabad, viz, Arrah, Jagdishpur, Sasaram, Buxar, Dumraon and Dehri-on-Sone These were the earliest organised allopathic centres that gave medical relief

The first was the dispensary at Arrah established in February, 1860, and was under the charge of a First Grade Sub-Assistant Surgeon in 1872. In 1872, the total number of indoor patients treated were 280, out of which 226 were recovered or relieved, 26 or 9 28 per cent had died and the average daily number of the sick was 11 51. During the same year the total number of outdoor patients treated were 8,752 and the average daily attendance at the dispensary was 112.31.

Jagdishpur Dispensary was established in 1864. In 1872 it was under the charge of a First Class Hospital Assistant During the first half of the year the attendance was very good, but it subsequently fell off to such an extent that the total number of admissions of the indoor and outdoor patients in 1872 was less than that of the previous year by more than one thousand. The reason for this decline is not known However, the total number of patients treated during 1872 was 88 out of which 64 recovered, 1 or 1 3 per cent died and the average daily number of sick was 2 90 The total number of outdoor patients treated was 2,906 and the average daily attendance at the dispensary was 42 06

The dispensary at Sasaram was established in March, 1865, and at the close of the year 1872, was under the charge of a Sub-Assistant Surgeon He had reported that cholera prevailed from April to June in 1872 and was largely diffused from village to village. Many indoor patients were admitted in a bad state, and the death-rate amounted to 18 78 per cent of the patients treated. During 1872, the total number of indoor patients treated was 165, out of which 126 recovered or relieved 31 or 18.78 per cent died and the average daily number of sick was 7 27. The number of the outdoor patients treated in 1872 was 4,046 and the average daily attendance was 63 23.

Hunter mentions that the Dumraon Dispensary was established in 1871 and at the end of 1872, was under the charge of a Third Grade Sub-Assistant Surgeon. The total number of indoor patients treated was 55 out of which 36 recovered or relieved, 4 or 7.27 per cent died and the average daily number of sick was 5.00. The

* *A Statistical Account of Bengal*, 1878, Vol. XIII, Gaya and Shahabad, pages 289 291

number of the outdoor patients in 1872, was 4,148, the daily average attendance being 122.00.

The Buxar Dispensary was established in July, 1866. In 1872, it was under the charge of a Third Class Hospital Assistant. The total number of the indoor patients treated in the dispensary in 1872 was 133 out of which 100 had recovered and 14 had died. The average daily number of the sick in the dispensary was 6.13. The number of the outdoor patients treated was 3,071 and the average daily attendance was 33.35.

Hunter further mentions—

"There is a second charitable institution at Buxar, the Railway Dispensary, which has been opened since May, 1872, and which Dr. Francis describes as follows:—

'This is an admirable institution. It is situated sufficiently near the station to be useful to the railway employees and others, and yet far enough from its bustle and noise It is intended for native pilgrims, for the servants of the company, and for European travellers out of health, requiring a day or two's rest, and for whom there is no other accommodation in the station. The building consists of a single room for two or three Europeans, well furnished; a ward for twelve or fourteen natives; side rooms and suitable out-offices, the whole having been fitted up at cost of £ 40. A palanquin has been provided for the transport of the sick to and from the railway station.'

'*Dehri-on-Sone Dispensary*.—This is a hospital situated at the headquarters of the irrigation works, forming the centre of medical relief for those employed in connection with the canals, the general population of the locality, and such pilgrims and travellers as may fall ill. The entire medical arrangements are under the charge of Dr. Jackson, who is assisted at headquarters by a Sub-Assistant Surgeon and native doctor, and has five native doctors located at the following stations:—

Barun, Barari, Walladad, Nasriganj and Dhandang

The hospital at Dehri can contain 44 patients. The high death-rate during 1872, viz., 19.86, was mainly due to cholera, which caused 34 deaths, and dysentery, 11. In that year, the total income amounted to £ 577, 10s., and the expenditure to the same Indoor patients: total cases treated, 287; recovered, 223; died 57, or 19.86 daily average number of sick, 11.64. The number of outdoor patients treated in 1872 was 3,627, the average daily attendance being 70.96"*

* *A Statistical Account of Bengal*, 1878, page 291.

The much poorer facilities for medical treatment, the absence of modern surgical instruments and highly specialised knowledge lead one to believe that the standard of medical help rendered was quite high, the incidence of casualty being quite low.

The State Editor's article *'A Medical Image of Bihar'**, published in the *'Souvenir, The Twenty-Third Bihar State Medical Conference, Katihar, 1963'*, gives a rapid survey of the public health conditions and medical facilities in the State including Shahabad district from 1910-11 onwards This is based on a study of the annual reports of the Medical Department published by the Government.

While discussing the vital statistics he mentions —

> "The basis of statistics for the registration of vital statistics even now is not very sound It is no wonder that the Bengal Administration Report of 1910-11 mentions that the worst results were reported from Shahabad . . . . when a verification of the registration of vital statistics was conducted on a large scale.. ..... plague, malaria, cholera and small-pox were the common diseases**".

He further mentions, "The Administration Report of 1910-11 shows wide spread of cholera in Patna and Tirhut divisions. Fever claimed a mortality of 30 25 per mille in Shahabad district". During 1912-13, Shahabad district was ravaged from plague and the two towns, viz., Sasaram and Jagdishpur suffered mostly. Besides inoculation, evacuation of houses was also practised in Shahabad district as a preventive measure against plague†. During the same period there were two itinerant dispensaries in Shahabad district to meet the particular outbreak of diseases

In 1913-14, "we have a reference to the outbreaks of cholera, small-pox, fever and plague in the report . . . .. Inoculation of plague was unpopular . . . . .. " and for the first time a second class health officer was posted in Arrah Municipality "The rate of mortality from small-pox was 22 for the year and .... Shahabad .... , had a higher mortality than that prevailing in the Province' During the same year the travelling dispensaries in Shahabad did good work

He further mentions, that in 1914-15, there was again an outbreak of plague in the province and Shahabad along with Saran and

* *'A Medical Image of Bihar'* by Shri P. C. Roy Chaudhury published in the *Souvenir, The Twenty-Third Bihar State Medical Conference, Katihar*, 1963, pages 21—30.

** *'A Medical Image of Bihar'* by Shri P. C. Roy Chaudhury published in the *Souvenir, The Twenty-Third Bihar State Medical Conference, Katihar* 1963, pages 21-22.

† Evacuation had often to be done almost forcibly through the help of the Magistracy and the Police.

Patna districts suffered most severely. The Administration Report of 1915-16 mentions that there were two malarial lecturers for the district of Shahabad and Purnea. The incidence of malaria in these two districts was obviously very high.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Regarding the vital statistics the *District Gazetteer of Shahabad*, 1924, mentions that in 1869, the duty of reporting deaths was imposed on the uneducated and mostly illiterate village *chaukidars* and the system was extended to births in 1876. But the returns thus obtained were naturally so incomplete and inaccurate that they were soon given up and except in towns deaths alone were registered. In 1892, the collection of the statistics of births as well as deaths was ordered again.

Under this system the vital occurrences were reported by the *chaukidars* to the police who submitted the monthly returns to the Civil Surgeon. The Civil Surgeon compiled the monthly statistics for the whole district*. This system continued till very recently.

The accuracy of the statistics, obtained through the agency of the village *chaukidars* was often treated with doubt. The diseases to which deaths were ascribed were often incorrectly stated and in their *hath chithas* (slips) usually three diseases used to be mentioned, viz., cholera, small-pox and fever. Besides at times when they fell ill, the reporting agency remained entirely suspended. During the epidemics it was hardly expected that they would keep a correct record. Hence, this system was given up and the system now in vogue was introduced.

Under the existing system neither the village *chaukidar* nor the Civil Surgeon are responsible for the collection and compilation of vital statistics. It is now the responsibility of the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Bihar, Patna. The initial collection of vital statistics is done by the *Gram Sewaks*. The *Gram Sewaks* are at the lowest level of the *Gram Panchayat* organisation and are paid Government servants. They assist the *Mukhiyas* in maintaining the registers and statistics and also function as the bench clerks of the *Sarpanches*. The *Gram Sewaks* send monthly records of the initial vital statistics to the office of the District Statistical Officer who compiles them and sends the same to the Directorate of Economics and Statistics. This Directorate prepares the vital statistics for the State as a whole. This system has not been in vogue for a pretty long time and no appraisal appears to have been made as to the efficacy of the agency for collecting and reporting the statistics. The *Gram Sewaks* have been entrusted with quite a few responsible jobs and very much will depend on the zeal, honesty and sense of responsibility of the *Gram Sewaks* and the supervision of the superior authorities.

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* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad*, 1924, page 57.

The table that follows shows the vital statistics of the district from 1883 to 1904*:—

Years	Births		Deaths							
	Number	Per mille	Cholera		Small-Pox		Plague		Fever	
			Number	Per mille	Number	Per mille	Number	Per mille	Number	Per mille.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1883	1,241	28.55	6,379	3.24	46	0.02		..	24,890	11.11
1884	723	16.63	1,775	0.96	396	0.20			25,319	12.88
1885	728	16.74	4,415	2.24	664	0.32			38,762	19.72
1886	194	4.46	6,140	3.12	166	0.07			57,379	29.20
1887	1,001	23.63	14,067	7.15	136	0.06			40,536	20.62
1888	3,145	27.22	1,824	0.92	91	0.04			39,399	20.05
1889	3,158	27.33	4,080	2.07	784	0.39			40,202	20.45
1890	3,131	27.10	3,750	1.90	527	0.26			39,706	20.20
1891	3,195	24.50	14,208	6.95	501	0.24			39,751	19.45
1892	54,892	26.60	6,946	3.36	393	0.19			46,554	22.56
1893	61,549	29.82	1,854	0.89	297	0.14			55,023	26.66
1894	60,652	29.37	19,484	9.44	161	0.07			78,918	38.23
1895	61,563	29.82	4,603	2.23	200	0.09			41,619	20.16
1896	73,139	35.49	2,859	1.38	1,429	0.69		..	42,864	20.80
1897	67,775	32.89	3,054	1.48	4,070	1.97			55,779	27.06
1898	61,401	29.79	244	0.11	28	0.01			39,147	18.99
1899	89,642	43.50	4,249	2.06	4	01			50,777	24.64
1900	80,270	38.95	15,106	7.33	82	0.03	2	0.0008	48,000	23.29
1901	86,255	43.94	899	0.45	88	0.04	5,081	2.58	37,437	19.07
1902	84,340	42.97	972	0.49	355	0.18	2,282	1.16	37,215	18.96
1903	81,954	41.75	12,027	6.12	810	0.41	7,596	3.87	57,097	29.08
1904	89,669	45.68	342	0.17	315	0.16	10,484	5.34	48,629	24.77

* *Twenty years' Statistics District Shahabad*, page 87.

Year	Deaths—*concld*									
	Dysentery and diarrhoea.		Respiratory diseases		Injuries		Other causes		Total.	
	Number	Per mille	Number	Per mille	Number	Per mille	Number	Per mille	Number	Per mille.
1	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
1883	874	0.44			697	0.35	4,044	2.07	36,930	18.79
1884	619	0.31			687	0.35	4,041	2.07	32,837	16.71
1885	706	0.35	..		720	0.36	5,091	2.61	50,358	25.62
1886	738	0.37	..	..	729	0.36	5,934	3.04	71,086	36.17
1887	1,027	0.52	.		850	0.43	5,487	2.81	62,103	31.60
1888	688	0.35	.	.	928	0.47	7,343	3.76	50,273	25.58
1889	681	0.34	..		938	0.48	6,025	3.06	52,710	26.82
1890	457	0.23	..		864	0.43	6,027	3.06	51,331	26.12
1891	502	0.24	..	..	796	0.38	5,394	2.64	61,152	29.93
1892	380	0.18	..		831	0.40	6,486	3.14	61,590	29.84
1893	361	0.17	..		950	0.46	7,921	3.83	66,406	32.18
1894	973	0.47			991	0.48	9,050	4.38	109,577	53.00
1895	395	0.19		.	961	0.46	8,357	4.04	56,135	27.19
1896	361	0.17	.		819	0.39	8,776	4.25	57,112	27.71
1897	577	0.28	.		993	0.48	8,704	4.22	73,177	35.51
1898	152	0.07			862	0.41	7,569	3.67	48,002	23.29
1899	227	0.11			917	0.44	12,603	6.11	68,777	33.37
1900	253	0.12			796	0.38	11,109	5.39	75,346	36.56
1901	168	0.08	..		934	0.47	10,319	5.25	54,926	27.98
1902	165	0.08			830	0.42	10,425	5.31	52,241	26.61
1903	236	0.56	7	0.003	722	0.36	11,762	5.99	90,257	45.98
1904	156	0.07	13	0.006	831	0.42	13,069	6.65	73,839	37.62

Giving an analysis of the vital statistics after the year 1892, Mr. O'Malley, in the *District Gazetteer of Shahabad, 1906**, mentions that since that year to the end of 1904 there was but little increase in the population of the district as the excess of births over the deaths was only 66,000 Fever, famine and plague were the chief reasons for the slow growth of population. The vital statistics quickly indicated the effect of the famine of 1896-97, and the birth-rate dropped from 35 50 per mille in 1896 to 32 90 in the succeeding year and to 29 80 in 1898 However, a sudden rise to 43.50 was recorded in 1899, a ratio far above than any of those previously recorded. The mortuary returns also bore the effects of natural calamities and the death-rate suddenly rose from 27 70 per thousand in 1896 to 35.50 in 1897, but in 1898 it declined to 23 30.

The incidence of health of the district was distinctly decadent during the period 1892—1900 as there was 5,000 more deaths than the births. However, the period 1901—04 showed an excess of births over deaths. although the unusual mortality of 1903 greatly swelled the number of deaths. This figure was higher than any of the previous returns The total number of deaths in 1903 was 90,000 (nearly 46 per thousand). Greater mortality had been noticed only in the year 1894 In the year 1904 the birth rate was recorded at 45 70 per thousand, a rate higher than any previous return.

In 1903 the mortality in the different parts of the district was recorded in the following manner** —

> "In the Buxar thana the ratio was as high as 63 22; but the most noticeable feature of the mortuary returns was the excessive mortality in towns In Sasaram it was 46 31, in Arrah 53 56, and in Jagdishpur 61.21 a thousand, the high death-rate in the first town being due to the prevalence of cholera, and in Arrah and Jagdishpur to plague, which caused a mortality of 35 04 and 28 29 per thousand of their population. In 1904, matters improved somewhat, as there was only 73,800 deaths but even so the number of deaths recorded was greater than even in the famine year of 1897".

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad*, 1906, pages 43-44.

** *Ibid*, p 44.

The *Shahabad District Gazetteer, Statistics,* 1900-1901 to 1910-11 mentioned the following figures of vital statistics*:—

Year.	Population under registration	Births		Deaths.		Deaths per 1,000 from—							
		Number	Ratio per 1,000	Number	Ratio per 1,000	Plague	Cholera	Small-pox.	Fever	Dysentery and Diarrhoea.	Respiratory disease	Injury.	All other causes.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1905 ..	19,62,696	81,368	41.45	1,15,117	58.65	8.26	4.94	0.05	37.76	0.13	0.01	0.42	7.03
1906 ..	19,62,696	77,632	39.55	78,782	40.13	3.01	2.55	0.08	27.51	0.26	0.01	0.42	6.25
1907 ..	19,62,696	84,434	43.01	79,044	40.27	5.12	3.12	0.36	24.88	0.06	0.01	0.42	6.26
1908 ..	19,62,696	79,436	40.47	73,645	37.52	1.03	2.87	1.43	25.97	0.09	0.01	0.43	5.65
1909 ..	19,62,696	72,644	37.03	72,875	37.[illegible]3	0.51	0.43	1.49	28.18	0.04	0.003	0.53	5.92
1910 ..	19,62,696	69,593	35.45	96,851	49.34	3.65	9.15	0.07	30.25	0.14	0.01	0.44	5.59
Average of 1901—1910.	..	8,07,325	41.128	78,758	40.123	3.453	3.029	0.427	26.643	1.07	0.0062	0.433	5.992
1911 ..	18,65,660	82,854	44.41	89,498	47.97	6.89	3.19	0.03	30.21	0.09	0.01	0.50	7.01

*Shahabad District Gazetteer, Statistics, 1900-1901 to 1910-11, page 7.

In the revised edition of the *Shahabad District Gazetteer*, published in 1924, a further analysis of the vital statistics has been given from the year 1912 onwards. The analysis runs as follows:—

"During the five years from 1912 to 1916 the mean ratio of births per thousand was 45.5, but in the subsequent quinquennial period it fell to 39.5. Deaths, which in the earlier period were 34.2 per thousand, rose in the second period to 47.3. 1918 was a very unhealthy year, when the deaths reported numbered 1,50,943 (80.9 per thousand), largely due to the influenza epidemic. Another unhealthy year was 1921, when 97,067 deaths were reported.

"The following table shows the infant mortality in Shahabad district during the five years ending with 1921:—

Year	Births		Deaths (under one year old)	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
1917	40,313	37,298	8,977	8,077
1918	38,521	36 026	10,810	9,788
1919	33,363	30,705	7,873	7,211
1920	34 607	31,887	8,582	7,202
1921	32,446	30,057	8,479	7,057

"The Civil Surgeon ascribes the high infant mortality to the fact that the parents are often badly nourished, and to disregard of the primary rules of sanitation. A large proportion of the infants (7,639 in 1921) died within a week of birth, which is attributed to the ignorance of women, relying entirely on untrained *Dais*, who have some empirical knowledge of how to deal with maternity cases, but have had no regular training."*

The foregoing analysis of vital statistics shows that there had been several ups and downs in the birth-rate and death-rate during 1881—1921—at one time births exceeded deaths while at another deaths exceeded births. But during the same period, there was an average annual decrease at the rate of 0.17 per cent. "The decrease in the population between 1881 and 1921 would have been steeper still but for a large

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), pages 57-58

increase in immigration caused by the opening up of the Sone canal and also the extension of cultivation in the eighties, and development of the lime industry in the decade 1911–20 The increase of 5 7 per cent in the population during the decade 1881–90 is largely illusory because but for large immigration in this period, the population would actually have registered a decrease*".

The opening year of the decade 1921–30, was no less unfavourable to Shahabad than it was to the adjacent districts of Patna and Gaya "The number of deaths in 1921 was more than 50 per cent in excess of the number of births Cholera alone was responsible for the loss of 17,000 lives in that year, and the mortality from fever was quite exceptionally high The remainder of the decade saw a complete transformation in the standard of public health The birth-rate in each of the nine following years was always well ahead of the death-rate. Fever was less destructive than it had been at any time during the past fifty years, and the annual mortality from cholera for the five years immediately after 1921 was only 750 There was a recrudescence of this disease towards the end of the decade and Buxar in particular suffered severely from the outbreak which occurred in 1929 But in the light of the past history of Shahabad the death-roll from cholera during the whole of this period must be regarded as moderate Plague was more active in this district than in the rest of South Bihar, but its activity was exhausted before the decade was half over During the whole period some 10,400 deaths were caused by plague, and of these 9,000 were recorded in the first four years The most violent outbreak took place in 1923, and here again Buxar was the chief sufferer. In 1927 small-pox was responsible for over 3 500 deaths and less severe epidemics of the same disease broke out in 1926 and 1928**

The *Census of India*, 1941, gives the following figures of vital statistics† --

District	1931 – 1941		Per 1,000 of 1931 population		Columns 2—3 ('000 omitted)	1941 *minus* 1931 (Census) ('000 omitted).
	Births	Deaths	Births	Deaths		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Shahabad	7,94,980	1,83,414	399	242	**311**	**335**

* *District Census Hand-Book of Shahabad*, 1951, page IV

** *Census of India*, 1931, Volume VII, Bihar and Orissa, Part I—**Report,** pages 36 37

† *Census of India*, **1941**, Vol. **VII**, Bihar, Tables, **page 13.**

The District Census Hand-Book of Shahabad, 1951, gives the following vital statistics from 1941–1950*:—

Year	Births (registered)			Deaths (registered)		
	Persons	Males	Females.	Persons	Males.	Females.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1941 ..	80,093	42,096	37,997	53,310	26,936	26,374
1942 ..	73,082	38,445	34,637	43,769	22,348	21,421
1943 ..	70,265	36,863	33,402	45,928	23,444	22,484
1944 ..	66,964	34,979	31,985	49,393	25,586	23,605
1945	69,450	36,155	33,295	61,211	31,681	29,530
1946	69,335	36,632	32,703	46,629	24,095	22,534
1947 ..	62,483	32,856	29,627	52,288	26,963	25,325
1948 ..	62,781	33,657	29,124	49,828	25,526	24,302
1949	61,250	32,489	28,761	32,461	15,822	16,639
1950	68,317	35,982	32,335	40,399	22,079	18,320

From the statistics it is apparent that the birth rate during the decade 1941–50 had decreased largely, being 80,093 in 1941 to 68,317 in 1950. The lowest births registered was in the year 1949 (61,250). From the same table of statistics it appears that the death-rate during the same decade had been on the decrease being 53,310 in 1941 and 40,399 in 1950. But the year 1945 shows an increase of 7,901 (61,211) over the total of 53,310 in 1941. This increase must have been due to the spread of epidemics and unhealthy climate. The lowest deaths registered was in the year 1949 (32,461).

* *District Census Hand Book of Shahabad*, 1951, page 116

The statement below shows the number of births and deaths registered, infant mortality and birth and death rates in Shahabad district from 1951 to 1961:—

Year	Total number of live births registered	Total number of deaths registered	Infant mortality.	Birth rate of per 1,000 population	Death rate of per 1,000 population.	Death due to—							
						Cholera.	Small-pox.	Plague	Fever	Dysentery and dirrhoea	Respiratory diseases.	Injury	All other causes.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1951 (a) .	70,823	41,904	10,479	26 34	19 03	N A.	N A	N A	N A	N.A	N A.	N.A.	N.A.
1952 (b)	64,566	34,743	8,333	24 0	12 9	2,604	330	Nil	26,127	36	55	178	5,413
1953 (c) .	55,456	30,218	7,266	20 6	11.2	2,557	98	Nil	22,514	40	77	139	4,793
1954 (d)	53,413	26,364	7,516	19 87	9.81	89	228	Nil	21,140	48	55	130	4,647
1955(d)	58,961	23,672	5,762	21 93	8 81	128	50	Nil	18,786	76	77	163	4,402
1956(e) .	64 423	30,867	8 126	25 05	12 00	743	187	1	23,952	70	121	209	5,584
1957(e) .	54,249	32,291	6,033	31 86	18 96	4,339	417	1	23,806	86	56	164	3,422
1958(c)	48,239	26,399	5 381	15 48	8 84	695	1,203	Nil	21,018	N A.	N A.	N.A.	N.A.
1959(c) .	66,493	28,947	7,572	21 95	9 55	94	145	Nil	23,152	N A.	N.A.	N A.	N A.
1960(f) .	50,005	19,772	5,682	15 56	6 15	N A	N A	N A	N A	N.A	N A	N A.	N A
1961(g) .	54,821	26,501	7,513	17 03	8 23	N A	N A.	N A	N A.	N A.	N A.	N.A.	N.A.

N A.—Not available

(a) *Bihar Statistical Hand Book*, 1952, p 52

(b) *Bihar Statistical Hand Book*, 1953, p 65

(c) *Directorate of Statistics and Economics, Bihar, Patna*

(d) *Bihar Statistical Hand-Book*, 1955, pages 70-71.

(e) *Bihar Statistical Hand-Book*, 1957, pages 87, 88 and 89,90.

(f) *Bihar through Figures*, 1960, p. 21

(g) *Bihar through Figures*, 1961, pages 28-29

It appears from the above table that during 1951—61 **the births** had decreased largely, being 70,823 in 1951 to 54,821 in 1961 It is further apparent from the above table that the death-rate during the same period had also been on decrease being 41,904 in 1951 and 21,501 in 1961 The lowest death-rate was in the year 1960 (19,772) Similarly the infant mortality was too on decrease being 10,479 in 1951 and 7,513 in 1961 The lowest infant mortality was in the year 1958 (5,381) In 1957, Shahabad had the highest infant mortality rate and also the highest death-rate per thousand of population in Bihar

DISEASES

Regarding the endemics and epidemics W W. Hunter mentions in his 'A Statistical Account of Bengal, 1878' that the prevailing endemic diseases of Shahabad were intermittent and remittent fevers of the ordinary type, bowel complaints, opthalmia and skin diseases In 1873, fever was very common in the district and deaths due to it was 10,395 or 6 02 per thousand of the population as against 5,205 deaths or 3 01 per thousand in 1872 During April, 1873, an epidemic of cholera first assumed a serious form and in the next month became diffused over the whole of the district Towards the middle of June it increased considerably in the neighbourhood of Arrah reached its peak in July, and eventually died away in November In 1873 the total number of deaths due to cholera was 1,692 or 2 72 per thousand of the population as against 540 or 00.31 per thousand of the population in 1872 Small-pox also prevailed during 1873 in various parts of the year and the district but there was reason to believe that cases of measles and chicken-pox were returned as small pox The total number of deaths recorded in 1873 due to it was 811 or 00 47 per thousand population while in 1872 it was 235 or 00 13 to every thousand of the population *

Fever

As regards the diseases prevalent in the district, fever being the foremost, the *District Gazetteer of Shahabad*, 1906**, *by* Mr. L. S S O'Malley, mentions that on the basis of the returns, the greatest number of deaths was due to fever, from which the district was suffering severely for the past many years It could be safely assumed that Shahabad suffered very badly from malaria This disease was more or less persistent since 1879 and during the decade ending 1890 the recorded death-rate varied from 15 7 per mille in Belauti (Shahpur) to 31 8 in the Kargahar thana During this decade the worst year was 1886 and the Shahabad district was stigmatized as the worst in the 'Province'† in respect of fever mortality. The

* *A Statistical Account of Bengal* 1878, Vol XII, Gaya and Shahabad, pages 287-288

** *District Gazetteer of Shahabad*, 1906, pages 44-45.

† That is Bengal Bihar and Orissa.

death-rate ranged from 30 4 per thousand in the Sasaram thana to as much as 42.9 in Kargahar During 1885—89, the average mortality was higher than in any other part of the Patna Division and during the last year of this period upwards of 90 per cent of all the villages in the district suffered from its ravages During 1891—1901, mortality averaged 24 8 and only twice fell below 20 a thousand and when the epidemic was at its height in 1894, the number of deaths due to it reached the appalling total of 78,918 or 38 23 per mille. In 1901 and 1902, the disease was not so prevalent but there was a recrudescence in 1903, the deaths recorded being over 57,000 In 1904, the number of deaths returned as due to fever was 48,600 or 24 77 as compared with 21 06 per mille in the whole of the Patna Division The incidence of malaria was high and contagious in character and had spread from Burdwan where it had played a havoc

In addition to the above details, the *District Gazetteer of Shahabad*, 1924 mentions as follows —

> " the Civil Surgeon reports that the fever which made its appearance in epidemic form in 1879 is still common in the district The returns of 1918 showed 1,03,468 deaths ascribed to this cause but these figures include most of the deaths from the influenza epidemic of that year "*

The incidence of deaths due to malarial fever in the decade 1921—30 has already been mentioned elsewhere but it may be repeated here that the mortality due to fever was exceptionally high in 1921 In the next nine years malaria was less fatal than it had been at any time during the past fifty years

In recent years again death due to malarial fever had been quite high In 1952, 1953 1954 1955 1956, 1957, 1958, and 1959 the number of recorded deaths due to malarial fever was 26,127 22,514, 21 140, 18,786, 23,952, 23 806, 21 018 and 23 152 respectively. It appears from the above figures that the mortality due to malaria had been on the decrease in 1959 as against 1952 The mortality ascribed to fever is unusually high in the rural areas The figures of death due to malarial fever from 1960 to 1963 were not available The anti-malarial measures in recent years have been discussed elsewhere According to the present (1964) Civil Surgeon of Shahabad, the figures appear high as even fever cases which were not necessarily malarial have been shown as due to malaria.

Influenza

Regarding the incidence of influenza the *Shahabad District Gazetteer* (1924), mentions that the "district did not escape from the world-wide epidemic of influenza in 1918 which again attacked the

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* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad*, 1924, pages 58 and 59

district with less violence in the following year. The southern portion of the district, which is liable to be affected by drought, suffered most severely, as the bad rainfall of 1918 left the people ill-prepared to withstand the ravages of epidemic disease Deaths from influenza were generally returned as caused by fever, as has been already mentioned, but it is this epidemic which accounts for the abnormal figures of 1918 The disease first appeared in a mild form early in July and abated temporarily after three or four weeks' stay It reappeared in September and rapidly spread over the district, the utmost severity of the disease being marked in the months of November and December. In the second period of the epidemic the disease was very virulent and fatal. Death in the majority of cases was due to long complications in the form of pneumonia"*

The incidence of influenza as an epidemic has abated but there are usually stray cases every year Influenza is now more easily controlled and is not allowed to assume an epidemic form

Plague.

Plague was imported into Shahabad district from the neighbouring districts during 1900, but its attack was felt only in the north-east portions of the district and the mortality was slight During 1901, its outbreak was much more serious and it took 5,000 lives. In 1902 there were 2,280 deaths In 1903, it was more severe and there were 7,600 deaths During 1904 and 1905 it took 10,180 and 15,800 lives respectively

The District Gazetteer (1924) mentions that the death-roll from plague was again high in 1914 (12,880), closely followed by the returns of 1911 and 1918 (12,859 and 12,685 respectively) The death rate from plague during these years has varied from 0 69 per mille in 1922 to 6 86 in 1914 "The disease pursues a regular course, decreasing or disappearing entirely in the hot and rainy weather months, reappearing after the rains and reaching its climax in the cold weather The only means employed by the people to stamp out the disease are disinfection and the evacuation of affected areas The former method is unpopular and has been but little resorted to Evacuation has, however, increased in popularity, as the people, though at first averse to it, have year by year become more ready to leave their houses and to build temporary shelters during the period of the epidemic Inoculation as a preventive measure is by no means popular"**

In the decade 1921—30, the incidence of plague went down. During the decade the total number of deaths due to plague was 10 100 out of which 9,000 were recorded in the first four years The most violent outbreak was in 1923 and Buxar was the chief target †

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad*, 1924, page 59

** *District Gazetteer of Shahabad*, 1924, pages 59-60.

† *Census of India*, 1931, Vol VII, Bihar and Orissa, Part I Report, page 37.

After this plague abated except stray cases From 1941 to 1959 only 67* persons died of plague. There have been no reports of plague since. Plague appears to have been wiped out

Cholera and Small-pox

In Shahabad Gazetteer, 1906, Mr. O'Malley mentions that after fever and plague, the principal diseases were dysentery, diarrhoea, cholera and small-pox In 1903, the district lost 6 12 per mille of its population due to cholera. "The epidemic prevailed from June to August, causing 10,600 deaths during this period; it is reported to have been aided by the late commencement of the monsoon, the disease diminishing greatly when rain fell in sufficient quantity to flush and cleanse the sources of drinking supply Blindness is unusually common the proportion of persons afflicted (181 per 1,00,000) being greater than in other district in Bengal except Patna, its prevalence appears to be due to the glare and dust accompanying a hot and dry climate"**

Regarding cholera the Shahabad Gazetteer, 1924, mentions that the most severe cholera epidemic occurred in 1908 which was aided by the late commencement of monsoon and it took 21,280 lives or 11 41 per mille The Civil Surgeon had reported that the disease diminished when rain fell to flush and cleanse the infected sources of drinking supply In 1921, it broke in epidemic form again and 16,937 persons or 9 3 per mille died in Shahabad Out of this number 4,858 died in July, and 8 994 in August † The climatic conditions of that season were particularly favourable to the multiplication of the carrier flies There was a temporary failure of the monsoon rains for five or six weeks after their first onset in the middle of June Temperature and humidity both favoured the rapid multiplication of flies, and there was no heavy rain to wash the land clean ‡

During the decade 1921–30, cholera was responsible for 17,000 deaths in 1921 and the annual mortality from it for the five years immediately after 1921 was only 750 It broke out afresh in 1929 and Buxar was in particular the chief victim In 1927 small-pox was responsible for over 3,500 deaths and less severe epidemics of the same disease broke out in 1926 and 1928@

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* Civil Surgeon's Office, Arrah

** *District Gazetteer of Shahabad*, 1906, page 45.

† *District Gazetteer of Shahabad*, 1924, page 60.

‡ On the agency of flies in spreading cholera, and the circumstances of this epidemic, see the *Annual Public Health Report for Bihar and Orissa*, 1921, by Lt.-Col. W. C. Ross, I.M.S., pages 5—8.

@ *Census of India*, 1931, Vol VII, Bihar and Orissa, Part I, Report, page 37.

Cholera and small-pox have never been totally absent from the district. From the statistics of eleven years (1951—61) it appears that cholera and small-pox took 11,249 and 2,658 lives respectively in the district.

Vaccination and inoculation have been given a detailed description at another place.

Bowel complaints.

Bowel complaints, dysentery and diarrhoea are quite common in the district due to the impurity of the drinking water specially in the hilly regions. In these regions only wells and springs (*chuans*) are the sources of water supply the purity of which is doubtful. Pipe water-supply is available only in Arrah and Sasaram towns and that also in an inadequate quantity. The low economic condition of the poorer sections forces them to consume various types of undigestive food particularly at times of scarcity.

The statement below gives the number of deaths due to dysentery and diarrhoea from 1951 to 1957 —

	1951	1952	1953.	1954	1955	1956	1957.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Diarrhoea and dysentery	N A	36	40	48	76	70	86

The figures from 1957 onwards are not available.

Tuberculosis

Due to poverty, ignorance, mal-nutrition, unhealthy and unhygienic environmental sanitation the incidence of tuberculosis was on the increase in the district. T. B. cases, in the past, were mostly not brought to the hospitals.

In 1952, a T B clinic with 10 beds (6 males and 4 females) was started and was attached to the Sadar Hospital, Arrah. During the Second Five-Year Plan tuberculosis wards with 10 beds have been started at the Subdivisional Hospitals, Sasaram and Bhabua and during the same period the building for a Tuberculosis clinic has been completed at Buxar Subdivisional Hospital. A T. B Hospital at Koilwar is functioning since 1959; the Methodist Mission Hospital at Pratapsagar is also treating the patients suffering from tuberculosis. At Dehri-on-Sone there is a T B clinic which is known as Jagjivan Ram T B clinic. The incidence of tuberculosis is now not large due to the activities of the World Health Organisation and the State Tuberculosis Association, Bihar. The total number of indoor patients treated in the Sadar Hospital, Arrah, was 76 in 1953, 59 in 1954, 52 in 1955, 50 in 1956, 45 in 1957, 42 in 1958, 44 in 1959, 42 in 1960 40 in 1961, 41 in 1962 and 30 in 1963. The statistics given by the Civil Surgeon's office indicate that the

incidence of cases of tuberculosis brought to the hospital is on the decline. There has been no census of T. B patients in the district but because of the expert medical help available now, it is expected that the incidence has gone down The B. C G campaign was a help in controlling the disease.

Venereal diseases.

Venereal diseases are quite common in the district It is prevalent both in the rural and urban areas. This was mostly due to the high incidence of prostitution. This is perhaps the only district where there used to be prostitutes or *natin* girls available in almost every large village. The modern treatments and the introduction of various preventives have contributed to a lesser incidence of the venereal diseases

MEDICAL AND HEALTH ORGANISATION.

The Civil Surgeon (now called the Senior Executive Medical Officer and the Civil Surgeon) is the head of the medical organisation in the district. He is the Inspecting Officer of all the Government hospitals and dispensaries including the District Board dispensaries He is the Superintendent of all the hospitals and dispensaries in the district maintained either by the District Board or the Government. He exercises complete professional control over the Government Medical Officers in the hospitals and dispensaries He is also expected to help the Mission and the other private hospitals within the district. He has also the responsibility of the preventive and curative sides of the diseases for the whole district For this purpose he is assisted by the District Medical Officer of Health One of the responsibilities of the Civil Surgeon is to prevent the outbreak of epidemics, and in case of an outbreak to control it He is also the authorised Drugs Inspector for the district.*

The District Medical Officer of Health is the head of the health organisation of the district He is posted at the district headquarters and is responsible for public health organisation in the rural area At each subdivisional headquarters Health Officers and Assistant Health Officers are posted for health work under the District Medical Officer of Health. Health Officers have also been posted at Arrah and Sasaram Municipalities At each Block headquarters there is one Sanitary Inspector. Besides them, there are 94 vaccinators (88 appointed by the District Board and six by the Municipalities) and 42 Disinfectors in the district.** More details of health organisation have been discussed elsewhere in the text on 'Local Self-Government'.

Regarding the relationship of the Civil Surgeon and the District Medical Officer, the present (1964) Civil Surgeon reports, "Although Senior Executive Medical Officer and Civil Surgeon of the district

* Civil Surgeon's Office, Arrah.

** District Board, Arrah.

has full responsibility for preventing the outbreak of epidemic, the District Medical Officer of Health who is supposed to assist him has not been posted under him The District Medical Officer of Health has a separate existence and is independent of the Senior Executive Medical Officer and Civil Surgeon To have a proper co-ordination the L S-G Act needs amendment"

Hospitals and Dispensaries

Regarding medical institutions in the district Mr O'Malley mentions, "The number of medical institutions in the district has more than doubled within the last 30 years, and there are now 13 dispensaries, of which the oldest and most important is that in Arrah town, established in 1860 Besides this, there are dispensaries at each of the subdivisional headquarters Buxar, Sasaram and Bhabua, and at Akbarpur, Dehri, Dumraon, Jagdishpur, Nasriganj and Surajpura The other institutions of this kind are those situated at Sikraul, Koath and Basaon, which are kept up by the Public Works Department for the medical relief of those employed in connection with the canals and of the general population of the locality By far the largest number of patients are treated for fever and next to that for skin diseases. Cataract operations are very numerous, and during the period 1896–1900 successful operations of this nature were performed in the case of 831 women and 744 men"*

The following tables give the number of dispensaries and treatment given in 1904** —

Name of dispensary	Year of establishment	Diseases treated				
		Fever.	Diseases of the skin	Diseases of the ear	Diseases of the digestive organs	Diseases of the eye
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Akbarpur	September, 1904	290	73	53	37	32
Arrah	1860	2,071	1,382	1,401	1,324	1,353
Bhabua	1873	1,233	749	846	383	191
Buxar	1866	1,538	921	814	787	404
Dehri	1872	1,104	318	365	316	277
Dumraon	1871	1,316	1,702	1,368	1,665	1,486
Jagdishpur	1864	2,051	1.099	862	683	652
Nasriganj	1874	1,842	305	407	456	106
Sasaram	1865	1,636	1,049	1,027	1,020	616
Surajpura	July, 1904	872	512	408	600	279
Irrigation Dispensary at —						
Basaun	1893	337	140	27	55	15
Koath	1899	139	37	9	44	13
Sikraul	1874	368	37	8	67	7
Total	..	14,797	8,324	7,975	7,437	5,491

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad*, 1906, pages 47 48.

** *Ibid*, p 47.

Name of dispensary.		Receipts.				Expenditure	
		Government contribution	District	Municipal funds.	Subscriptions and other sources	Establishment	Medicine, diet, buildings, etc.
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
		Rs.	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs
Akbarpur	..	..	509		..	134	375
Arrah	..	198	4,500	1,700	3,392	3,212	4,409
Bhabua	..	67	459	430	568	743	765
Buxar	..	111	2,000	1,483	638	917	3,3'5
Dehri	..	1,561	.	..		894	667
Dumraon	.	38	180	444	4,578	4,290	1,040
Jagdishpur	.	165	1,500	763	731	1,374	1,655
Nasriganj	.	492	225	.	953	580	417
Sasaram	.	37	675	2,604	3,089	3,354	1.453
Surajpura	.		2,597	.		451	2,146
Irrigation dispensary at—							
Basaun	.	779	.	.	..	606	179
Koath		494	.		.	349	145
Sikraul	..	847	.	..	.	312	535
TOTAL	.	4,789	12,643	7,424	13,949	17,126	17,101

The *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) mentions that in the next 18 years the number of medical institutions almost doubled and there were twenty-five hospitals and dispensaries in the district of which the oldest and most important was that at Arrah The next in importance were the subdivisional hospitals at Bhabua, Buxar and Sasaram. The Public Works Department maintained hospitals at Dehri, Agiaon, Basaon, Koath, Manoharpur and Sikraul, primarily for the medical relief of the persons employed on the canals, which were of great benefit to the people of the localities mentioned. In 1922, in addition to the fixed dispensaries, there were three travelling dispensaries (field hospitals) in the district which treated in Buxar, Sasaram and Sadar subdivisions 462, 2,445 and 4,564 patients respectively. It was reported by the Civil Surgeon that those travelling dispensaries were very useful, but it was necessary to find young and energetic medical men to manage them.*

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad*, 1924, pages 61-62.

The following table shows the receipts and expenditure of hospitals and dispensaries in 1922* —

Hospital or dispensary	Receipts				Expenditure.	
	Government grants	District Board	Municipality	Subscriptions	Establishment	Medicine etc.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs
Arrah	910	22,877	4,383	1,113	14,016	13,931
Baraon	1,730	605			1,908	350
Kochas	54	1,812			1,291	404
Koath	1,545	738			1,847	341
Sikraul	1,456	656			1,771	275
Sasaram	1,095	4,004	1,830	1,692	4,673	2,528
Jagdishpur	410	2,000	362	1,044	1,209	1,752
Nokha	145	4,035		27	1,023	4,032
Shahpur	125	2,960		24	1,287	1,498
Akbarpur	35	1,718		12	1,433	180
Piro	10	1,751			1,273	379
Agiaon	1,962	459	..		2,187	114
Adhaura	10	380				380
Bhabua	371	2,250	483	149	1,316	1,463
Nasriganj	679	5,136		573	1,698	4,114
Ghazipur	130	2,274			1,476	718
Surajpura	195	5,114		108	2,511	2,576
Sasanja	15	917		.	210	702
Raghunathpur	30	800			1,164	762
Mohania	58	1,413		45	1,351	249
Buxar	2,023	4,000	1,000	665	2,530	4,762
Chenari	135	1,938			1,083	714
Dehri	3,993				2,558	1,098
Dumraon**			.		7,889	2,470
Manoharpur	1,235		..		886	824
Travelling -						
Sadar .	20	2,082	.		1,381	647
Buxar	15	445			314	71
Sasaram	12	2,139	..	..	1,116	823
TOTAL	18,338	73,412	8,058	5,452	61,401	47,658

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad*, 1924, p 62.

** Supported entirely by Maharaja Bahadur Kesho Prasad Singh of Dumraon.

Prior to 1945, the hospitals and dispensaries were managed by the Joint Committee of the District Board and Municipalities and Government from time to time used to give grants to them. On 1st April, 1945, the Sadar Hospital, Arrah was provincialised. The Subdivisional Hospitals, Sasaram, Buxar and Bhabua were provincialised on 1st April, 1955, 15th July, 1955 and 23rd July, 1955 respectively.

During the Second Five-Year Plan (1956—60), the following hospitals and dispensaries were provincialised:—

Adhaura, Agiaon, Basaon, Bihiya, Chand, Chenari, Darigaon, Dehri, Dinara, Hatkhari Gaon, Jagdishpur, Kargahar, Koath, Koilwar, Kudra, Manoharpur, Mohania, Nasriganj, Nauhatta, Nokha, Piro, Raghunathpur, Ramgarh, Shahpur, Sheosagar and Sikraul*. Prior to this the dispensaries at Agiaon, Basaon, Koath, Manoharpur and Sikraul were maintained by the Irrigation Department.

Besides the Sadar hospital (Arrah) there is a morgue at the each subdivisional hospital and at Jagdishpur State Dispensary.

The table below shows the number of hospitals and dispensaries during February, 1964.—

Hospitals and dispensaries	Rural.	Urban.	Total
State Hospitals	Nil	4	4
State Dispensaries . ..	30	1	31
State Police Hospitals . ..	1	1	2
District Board Dispensaries	20	Nil	20
Private Aided Hospitals .. .	2	Nil	2
Mission Hospitals	2	Nil	2
Private Non-aided Hospitals ..	Nil	1	1
TOTAL	55	7	63

Besides there are 41 Community Development Blocks in the district each covering a population of 50,000 to 1,00,000. There is a Medical Officer at the Block headquarters who is responsible for public health and sanitation works in the Block area. Each Block has three health sub-centres in the interior villages where Auxiliary Health Staff are posted and Medical Officer visits each sub-centre twice a week. Owing to paucity of doctors a number of Blocks is without a doctor.

* *Shahabad Zila ki Pragati, Azadi Ke Chaudah Varsh*, published by the Directorate of Public Relations Department, page 14.

The table below shows the name of the different hospitals and dispensaries, their management, classification of beds, etc., during February, 1964* —

Serial no	Name of the institution	Class	Government managed or local municipal or private, etc	Male	Female	Children.	Emergency	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	ARRAH SADAR SUBDIVISION.							
1	Agiaon State Dispensary . .	I	Government	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
2	Arrah Police Hospital . .	II	Ditto ..	24	Nil	Nil	Nil	24
3	Arrah Sadar Hospital	I	Ditto .	96	47	Nil	Nil	143
4	Bihiya State Dispensary	I	Ditto ..	4	2	Nil	Nil	6
5	Jagdishpur State Dispensary ..	I	Ditto	10	6	Nil	Nil	16
6	Koilwar State Dispensary . .	I	Ditto	4	2	Nil	Nil	6
7	Piro State Dispensary	I	Ditto ..	4	2	Nil	Nil	6
8	Shahpur State Dispensary	I	Ditto ..	10	6	Nil	Nil	16
9	Udwantnagar State Dispensary ..	I	Ditto	4	2	Nil	Nil	6
10	Barkagaon District Board Dispensary ..	III	Local Bodies	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
11	Gaziapur District Board Dispensary ..	III	Ditto ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
12	Jamira District Board Dispensary ..	III	Ditto ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
13	Karisath District Board Dispensary ..	III	Ditto ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

14	Kori District Board Dispensary ..	III	Ditto ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
15	Maniyachapara District Board Dispensary ..	III	Ditto ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
16	Parsaunda District Board Dispensary ..	III	Ditto ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
17	Sahar District Board Dispensary ..	III	Ditto ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
18	Semraon District Board Dispensary ..	III	Ditto ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
19	Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway Dispensary	VI	Railway .	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	SASARAM SUBDIVISION.							
20	Akbarpur State Dispensary	I	Government	6	Nil	Nil	Nil	6
21	Bhimkarup State Dispensary . ..	I	Ditto ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
22	B. M. P. Dehri Hospital	II	Ditto	40	Nil	Nil	Nil	40
23	Chenari State Dispensary	I	Ditto .	6	Nil	Nil	Nil	6
24	Darigaon State Dispensary	I	Ditto ..	6	Nil	Nil	Nil	6
25	Dehri State Dispensary . ..	I	Ditto ..	8	4	Nil	Nil	12
26	Dinara State Dispensary . ..	I	Ditto ..	6	Nil	Nil	Nil	6
27	Kargahar State Dispensary	I	Ditto ..	6	Nil	Nil	Nil	6
28	Koath State Dispensary	I	Ditto ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
29	Nasriganj State Dispensary . ..	I	Ditto ..	10	2	Nil	Nil	12
30	Nauhatta State Dispensary . ..	I	Ditto ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
31	Nokha State Dispensary	I	Ditto ..	6	Nil	Nil	Nil	6
32	Sasaram Subdivisional Hospital ..	I	Ditto .	26	20	Nil	Nil	46

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
33	Sheosagar State Dispensary ..	I	Government	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
34	Bikramganj Raj Hospital ..	V	Private ..	8	Nil	Nil	Nil	8
35	Dalmianagar Factory Hospital ..	V	Ditto ..	22	6	Nil	Nil	28
36	Chamardihri District Board Dispensary	III	Local Bodies	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
37	Darihat District Board Dispensary ..	III	Ditto ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
38	Gorari District Board Dispensary ..	III	Ditto	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
39	Kochas District Board Dispensary ..	III	Ditto ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
40	Surajpura District Board Dispensary ..	III	Ditto ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
41	Tilouthu District Board Dispensary ..	III	Ditto ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	BUXAR SUBDIVISION.							
42	Buxar Subdivisional Hospital ..	I	Government	23	20	Nil	Nil	43
43	Manoharpur State Dispensary ..	I	Ditto ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
44	Raghunathpur State Dispensary ..	I	Ditto ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
45	Sikraul State Dispensary	I	Ditto ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
46	Simri State Dispensary	I	Ditto ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
47	Dumraon Raj Hospital	V	Private ..	30	35	Nil	Nil	65
48	Chaugain District Board Dispensary ..	III	Local Bodies	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
49	Manikpur District Board Dispensary .	III	Ditto ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
50	Nikalpur District Board Dispensary ..	III	Ditto ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

51	Sartaja District Board Dispensary ..	III	Ditto .	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
52	Adhaura State Dispensary	I	Government	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
53	Sasaon State Dispensary	I	Ditto ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
54	Bhabua Subdivisional Hospital ..	I	Ditto	10	6	Nil	Nil	16
55	Bhagwanpur State Dispensary ..	I	Ditto ..	4	2	Nil	Nil	6
56	Chand State Dispensary	I	Ditto ..	6	Nil	Nil	Nil	6
57	Durgawati State Dispensary	I	Ditto ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
58	Hatkhari Gaon State Dispensary ..	I	Ditto ..	6	Nil	Nil	Nil	6
59	Kudra State Dispensary	I	Ditto ..	4	2	Nil	Nil	6
60	Mohania State Dispensary	I	Ditto ..	6	Nil	Nil	Nil	6
61	Ramgarh State Dispensary	I	Ditto ..	4	2	Nil	Nil	6
62	Chehara District Board Dispensary ..	I	Local Bodies	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

* Civil Surgeon's Office, Arrah.

Sadar Hospital, Arrah.

It is the oldest medical institution in the district which was established in 1860. It was previously maintained by the local bodies but in 1945 when it was provincialised there were only 100 beds. During the First Five-Year Plan period (1951—56) the Government gave sanction for another 13 beds. In 1952 ten beds (6 males and 4 females) were added for tuberculosis patients. In 1955, again 20 more beds were recommended for the general patients and a Child Welfare Centre was also started in the hospital. During the same period two nurses, one dresser, three ward coolies and one sweeper were appointed. In the same year 10 beds were also added in the hospital for children. With the increase in the number of beds and staff, proportionally medicines and other equipments were increased. As soon as an Infectious Clinic was opened in 1958 one Specialist, one Health Inspector, one laboratory assistant, one 'A' grade nurse, one dresser and a sweeper more were appointed. In 1959 one additional Transfusion unit was sanctioned for this hospital*.

In February 1964, there were a Deputy Superintendent, six Civil Assistant Surgeons and two Lady Civil Assistant Surgeons in the hospital. The hospital is equipped with one X-ray plant. There are a tuberculosis clinic and a tuberculosis ward and also a venereal diseases clinic with six indoor beds (4 males and 2 females). The total number of beds excluding tuberculosis and venereal diseases beds is 143 (96 males and 47 females). Specialised treatments in surgery, tuberculosis, etc., are given in the hospital. Patients are given free diet @ 87 nP. per general bed and Rs. 1.37 nP. per tuberculosis bed**. The diet allowance is meagre.

The statistics of the indoor and outdoor patients from 1956 to 1963 is as follows**:—

Year	Number of indoor patients	Number of outdoor patients
1956	9,803	82,979
1957	9,411	4[illegible],945
1958	8,986	52,213
1959	9,268	50,476
1960	10,468	72,319
1961	9,794	53,352
1962	10,911	65,580
1963	Not available	Not available

* *Shahabad Zila Ki Pragati, Azadi Ke Chaudah Varsh*, published by the Directorate, Public Relations, Bihar, page 14.

** Civil Surgeon's Office, Arrah.

*Subdivisional Hospital, Sasaram**

This institution was established in 1865 and was taken over by the Government in 1945 There are two Civil Assistant Surgeons and one Lady Assistant Surgeon The strength of beds in the hospital during February, 1964, was 46 (26 males and 20 females) During the Second Five-Year Plan, 10 beds were added in the tuberculosis ward of the hospital This hospital is equipped with one X'ray plant which was installed in the year 1961 The statistics for the indoor and outdoor patients from 1959 to 1964 (till 11th January) are as follows —

Year.	Number of indoor patients	Number of outdoor patients.	Anti-Rabic treatment	Operations performed. Indoor	Outdoor.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1959	18,227	96,838	N A	N A	N.A
1960	15,797	97,613	N A.	N. A.	N. A.
1961 .	13,319	69,163	768	900	2,227
1962 . .	13,323	59,039	846	745	2,013
1963 .	12 592	57,535	644	1,131	2,015
1964 (Till 11th January, 1964)	328	1,525	Nil	N A.	N A.

*Subdivisional Hospital, Buxar**.

This institution was established in July, 1866 and was taken over by the Government on 15th July 1955 The hospital has two Civil Assistant Surgeons and one Lady Assistant Surgeon The hospital is equipped with 43 indoor beds The table below shows the number of the indoor and outdoor patients treated from 1960 to 1963·—

Year	Labour cases Normal	Labour cases Abnormal	Patients treated Indoor	Patients treated Outdoor.	Operations conducted.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1960 . .	444	59	2 2,8	41,554	773
1961 .	528	54	2 623	31,125	643
1962 .	529	65	2,526	24,938	2,867
1963 .	Not available	Not available	3,140	22,437	Not available.

* Civil Surgeon's Office, Arrah.

During the Second Five-Year Plan the building for the tuberculosis clinic was constructed within the hospital premises.

Subdivisional Hospital, Bhabua.

This hospital was established in 1873.

There are one Civil Assistant Surgeon and one Lady Assistant Surgeon at Bhabua hospital. The hospital is equipped with 17 indoor beds (males 8, females 6, isolation 2 and 1 paying).

The table below shows the number of indoor and outdoor patients treated at the hospital from 1960 to 1963:—

Year.	Patients treated.		Operations conducted.	
	Indoor.	Outdoor.	Major.	Minor.
1960	6,292	30,317	17	662
1961	6,658	34,249	9	769
1962	6,113	31,786	44	644
1963	4,854	31,805	17	380

A Tuberculosis Clinic with 10 beds is attached to this hospital and its separate building is under construction.

Jagdishpur State Dispensary.

The dispensary at Jagdishpur was established in 1864 which has now been provincialised. There is one Civil Assistant Surgeon to look after the dispensary and the patients. This dispensary maintains 16 indoor beds (10 males and 6 females). The dispensary building was substantially improved and additions were made in 1943 due to the efforts of the then Sadar Subdivisional Officer who was the Chairman of the Committee. The indoor wards, doctor's quarters and other staff quarters are in deplorable condition (1964).

Dehri State Dispensary.

There are one Civil Assistant Surgeon and one Lady Assistant Surgeon in the dispensary. The dispensary maintains 12 indoor beds (8 males and 4 females).

Tuberculosis Hospital, Koilwar.*

This hospital is located at Koilwar about 10 miles east of Arrah town on the bank of the river Sone. It covers an area of 128 acres of land. On the east and north-east there is the river Sone which often creates havoc by its flood. To avoid this situation, a protective mud *bund* runs around the hospital.

* Based on the information supplied by the Superintendent, Tuberculosis Hospital, Koilwar.

About four or five decades back, many persons from Bengal as well as from other parts of Bihar used to come over here (Koilwar), off and on, for a change and lived in hutments. These changers included some tuberculosis patients also. Those were the days when there were no antibiotics and at that time the place was famous for the salubrious climate which was a great help for the treatment of tuberculosis. But day by day the number of changers began to decline because the place was not immune to dacoits and thieves and there was danger to life and property as well. The number of the Bengali changers also began to decline because of the better accommodation facilities at Deoghar, Simultala, Madhupur, etc.

The climate of the place is healthy. Sone water is taken to be very digestive. The place where the hospital is now located was full of *Kans* jungle and, therefore, the land was quite cheap To provide better hospitalised treatment to the tuberculosis patients, the Government decided in 1951 to start a tuberculosis hospital at Koilwar.

During the same year, a philanthropic widow Shrimati Dharakshna Kunwar of Dumri in Buxar subdivision, was approached for donations She promised to pay a sum of Rs. 50,000 in donation but actually she gave Rs. 1,00,000 Shrimati Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, the then Health Minister at the Centre took great interest in tuberculosis institutions and gave a tremendous incentive in the development of such hospitals with no exception to the tuberculosis hospital at Koilwar. A master plan was drawn for this hospital. The plan consisted of a 750-bedded hospital.

The initial non-recurring grant for equipping (only the medical section) the hospital was Rs. 62,000 and it has got an annual recurring grant of Rs 2,16,000.

The real shape for the organisation of the hospital was given by the appointment of the Superintendent and the staff in December, 1959, which consisted of a Superintendent, two Medical Officers, one sister and 12 'A' grade nurses, an occupational therapist and others consisting of a total of 102 staff However, till now (February, 1964) hardly one or two nurses have been appointed and the work is carried on mainly with the help of dressers.

At present (February, 1964) it consists of only 64 beds for the males. There are no beds for females. Neither it gives any outdoor facility nor there is any domiciliary service arrangement or provision for surgery or a well developed laboratory or any culture or sensitivity is done here. So far as the medical treatment of the patients is concerned it is very well developed. However, patients requiring surgery treatments are sent to Patna General Hospital and some of them who can afford prefer to go to the Kasturba Memorial Hospital, Mysore.

The 64 beds have been divided into different quotas. Four for Shahabad district, three for the remaining districts of the State (Bihar), two for Government servants and ten for the Employees State Insurance Scheme A waiting list is maintained by the Superintendent and admission is done according to the serial order.

The building is now ready for 110 bedded female and 40 bedded additional male wards which have not yet been started

Amenities provided by the hospital consist of practically all indoor games, occasional dramas, dances and recitations and outdoor picnics for the patients As yet a fullfledged cinema house has not started but provisions for it have already been made The treatment including medicine, food and other minor personal requirements are all provided free by the hospital authorities including occasional monetary grants from the Government

The hospital has got its own X'ray plant both static and portable and a small laboratory for routine pathological examination. It also maintains a metalled approach road of about one and half miles in length from the Arrah-Patna Road The hospital is electrified and has got telephone and its own water-supply

The table below shows the number of patients admitted, died, cured, etc, at the hospital from 1960 to 1963·—

Year	Patients.			
	Admitted	Died.	Cured.	Other.
1960	45	3	6	1
1961	48	5	18	10
1962	32	9	20	3
1963	52	7	31	11
TOTAL	177	24	75	25

The column 'Other' includes those patients who were discharged as they were not tuberculosis patients or sent to other hospitals or left this hospital for some reason or other

Homoeopathic, Ayurvedic and Yunani Dispensaries.

The table below shows the number of Homoeopathic, *Ayurvedic* and *Yunani* dispensaries maintained by the District Board from 1958-59 to 1961-62 —

Year	Homoeopathic	Ayurvedic	Unani.
1958-59	3	20	5
1959-60	6	23	4
1960-61	6	24	5
1961-62	7	24	6

During 1959-60, three more Homoeopathic and three *Ayurvedic* dispensaries were opened as against three Homoeopathic and 20 *Ayurvedic* dispensaries during 1959-60 In 1960-61, one more *Ayurvedic* and during 1961-62, one more Homoeopathic dispensaries were started. During 1961-62, one *Yunani* dispensary at Jamuhar was re-started and a qualified *Hakim* and a peon were placed. This dispensary had to be closed during the year 1959-60, due to non-availability of a qualified *Hakim*

Each dispensary is under the charge of a qualified Homoeopathic Doctor, a qualified *Vaidya* and a qualified *Hakim*

Health Sub-centres

Health Sub-centres have been opened in all the Community Development Blocks As mentioned elsewhere there are at present 41 Blocks and each Block has three Health Sub-centres. It is, however, a regrettable fact that because of want of doctors, many Blocks and Health Sub-centres are medically unattended.

The following table shows the names of only 39 Blocks and Health Sub-centres functioning during February, 1964 —

Serial no	Name of the blocks	Name of the Health Sub-centres
	Arrah Sadar Subdivision	
1	Koilwar Block .	Chandi, Shripalpur and Daulatpur
2.	Barhara Block ..	Bishunpur, Bakhorapur and Baluan.
3.	Arrah Moffasil Block .	Dhamar, Pirauta and Salempur
4.	Udwantnagar Block .	Kasap, Bilaur and Asani
5	Bihiya Block	Mahuaon, Amri Nawadah and Bara
6	Shahpur Block ..	Barisawan. Benwalia and Isharpura.
7.	Jagdishpur Block ..	Manudehri, Air and Kitapar.
8.	Sahar Block ..	Azimabad, Ekwari and Chauri.
9.	Sandesh Block ..	Pratappur, Deonpur and Sandesh
10	Charpokhari Block at Garhani	Charpokhari, Makundpur and Manjhiaon
11.	Tarari Block .	Ramnagar, Tarari and Kharsawan.
12.	Piro Block	Kabar, Agiaon and Jamuaon

Serial no.	Name of the blocks.		Name of the Health Sub-centres.
	Buxar Subdivision.		
13.	Buxar Block	.	Chousa, Manjhuria and Baruna.
14.	Dumraon Block	..	Koran Saraiyan, Ariaon and Attaon.
15.	Itarhi Block	.	Bashundhar, Unwas and Hakimpur.
16.	Simri Block	..	Ganguauli, Dumri and Dulahpur.
17.	Rajpur Block	.	Kharhana, Nagendrapur and Sangarpur.
18.	Nawanagar Block at Athur		Karsar, Waina and Kanjhia.
	Sasaram Subdivision.		
19.	Sasaram Block	..	Gobina, Karbandia and Dhawdarh.
20	Dehri Block	..	Patruwan, Pahleja and Karkatpur.
21.	Sheosagar Block	..	Torni, Raipurchor and Parsi.
22	Kargahar Block	..	Rampur Naresh, Sheikh Bahuara and Torni
23	Dinara Block	..	Natwar. Chitaon and Bharsar.
24	Nasriganj Block	..	Khiriaon, Birodih and Malaon.
25	Chenari Block	..	Chandrakaithi, Sadokhara and Khurmabad
26.	Rohtas Block		Karma, Kariari and Rohtas Fort
27.	Nauhatta Block		Rehal, Tiarkala and Bhadara.
28	Dawath Block	..	Semari, Chitaon and Dhergaon
29	Karkat Block	.	Karkat and at other two places the Sub-centres have not been opened as yet.
30	Bikramganj Block		Sheopur, Sanjhouli and Parsa.
31	Nokha Block	..	Barraon, Sisiratpur and Panchpokhari
	Bhabua Subdivision.		
32.	Bhabua Block	..	Dihara, Kunj and Sonhau.
33	Mohania Block	..	Ahinoura, Lohiribari and Akethigola.

Serial no.	Name of the blocks.		Name of the Health Sub-centres.
34.	Durgawati Block	..	Kurharia, Kabilaspur and Chhanuri.
35.	Ramgarh Block	..	Upry, Nuaon and Kuchala.
36.	Kudra Block	..	Bahuara, Jagdishpur and Ghataon.
37.	Chainpur Block	..	Fakara bandh, Jagnia and Berhuna.
38.	Bhagwanpur Block	..	Ramgarh, Nauhatta and Sabar.
39.	Adhaura Block	..	Khondhar, Choudhrana and Garkey.

Each sub-centre is expected to have one trained *dai*, one health worker and one servant. As a preventive measure these sub-centres disinfect wells and houses, give cholera inoculations, vaccination against small-pox, distribute freely skimmed milk-powder to the needy and poor people in the area covered by each sub-centre and distribute multivitamin tablets free of cost to the needy population. Outdoor patients are treated free of cost at each sub-centre. The Medical Officer of the Block headquarters is expected to attend each sub-centre twice a week and examine the patients and give medicines to them. Besides, within a radius of one mile the trained *dais* visit the expectant mothers at their residences. But our personal investigations and tours showed that some of the Blocks are going without any doctor for months and the health sub-centres particularly at the outlying places are not regularly visited by the doctors. Unless the Blocks are fully manned by medical personnel it cannot be expected that the health sub-centres will be properly catered for.

Dispensaries of the Community Development Blocks.

Each Community Development Block Dispensary is expected to consist of the following staff:—

One Medical Officer, one Sanitary Inspector, one Lady Health Visitor, three Auxiliary Nurses or trained *dais* and one Auxiliary Health Worker or Health Worker.

The function of these dispensaries is to maintain the proper incidence of health in the rural areas. Disinfection of wells, inoculation and vaccination are some of the preventive measures while the Block Doctor treats the patients at the Block dispensaries and health sub-centres.

MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS.

There is no system under which every qualified doctor has to register himself with any authority. Even an unregistered docto duly qualified may practise. There is no bar to an unqualified ma

practising as a doctor unless he does anything against the law. The State branch or the district branch of the Indian Medical Association is there but an allopathic doctor may not join it Even unqualified doctors, nurses and midwives are carrying on practice and even surgery The homoeopathic doctors are also not statutorily obliged to register themselves. There are many unqualified homoeo, *unani* or *Vaid* doctors

There is a great dearth of qualified nurses. Most of the hospitals are without the adequate quota of nurses. The number of dressers, compounders and pharmacists is also inadequate There are training centres for the dressers at the subdivisional hospitals and the Dumraon and Dalmianagar hospitals. *Dais* are trained at Koilwar, Bihiya and Mohania. There are very few trained lady social welfare workers or lady health visitors in the Blocks, or in the maternity centres.

In the year 1940 a separate unit of the Indian Medical Association was started at Arrah, named as the Shahabad Branch Now the strength of the members of the Shahabad Branch of the Indian Medical Association is 120 out of which 50 are local, 50 are from the rural area and 20 are non-members who only attend the conference

There does not appear to have been any contribution to medical research from the doctors of this district

Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

To provide better care and medical attention to the mothers in both pre-natal and post-natal stages and also to the children from their birth up to a certain age, four Maternity and Child Welfare Centres have been started by the Government at Arrah, Sasaram, Buxar and Bhabua. Each centre is expected to have a trained Lady Health Visitor and a trained *dai* (midwife).

Family Planning Centres

The population explosion of the country has accentuated the economic problem and Family Planning is being recommended as a matter of vital importance to the State. It is held that the problem of unemployment, scarcity of food, high prices, etc, are also associated with the problem of the ever growing population. The advocacy of the family planning methods has been started some years back but it is felt that the achievement is very small. The problem is more a social one and has to be fought in the villages more than in the towns The contraceptives distributed to the blocks and health sub centres are hardly used and if used, there is very little of concrete result Individuals visit the family planning centres all alone and would not like their visit to the centres to be known to others It is, however, a fact that the knowledge to determine the size of the family is spreading amongst the educated middle class people.

In Shahabad district there is an Urban Family Planning Centre at Arrah Sadar Hospital where no staff has been posted although the post of a Lady Social Worker was sanctioned long ago. In the rural Family Planning Centres of which there are two, viz., at Sasaram and Sheosagar Blocks only six trained *dais* have been posted (one for each Health Sub-centre).

Besides, at each Block, hospital and dispensary contraceptives are available but they are mostly lying in stock to deteriorate.

No voluntary association seems to be actively working on this line

PRIVATE MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS.

The details of some of the private hospitals are as follows:—

Raj Hospital, Dumraon

In 1871, a dispensary at Dumraon was established which was later on converted into a hospital This is a private hospital managed by a trust created by the Dumraon Raj. Another Raj hospital, managed by the same trust, is running at Bikramganj. The Dumraon Raj Hospital maintains 65 beds The staff of the hospital consists of one Medical Officer, a Second Medical Officer and a Lady Assistant Surgeon.

Dr. Soule's Christian Hospital, Arrah.

This private nursing home was started by Dr. Mrs. E. G. Soule in 1946. From the beginning of a clinic, it has been converted into a private hospital with 10 indoor beds. Most of the patients are women. The hospital is running in a private house but it expects to have its own building soon. The new building is under construction This is more of a type of nursing home and the result of individual efforts.

Methodist Hospital, Pratapsagar.

There is a Methodist Hospital at Pratapsagar in Dumraon police-station since 1950. The hospital gives treatment to the outdoor patients only. A fair number of T B. patients is given specialised treatment. In 1962, it had treated over 42,000 patients. The hospital is cited in a spacious area and is said to maintain a high standard.

Roman Catholic Mission Dispensaries

There are Roman Catholic Mission dispensaries at Arrah, Buxar, Koath and Shahpur. The dispensary at Arrah was established in 1939 and at Shahpur in 1953 The Shahpur dispensary is in the charge of the Mothers of the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This is likely to be expanded into a hospital in the near future. The dispensary at Koath was established in the year 1948. There is also a Jain Charitable Homoeopathic Dispensary at Arrah.

There is also a dispensary attached to the unrecognised Girls' Middle School at Buxar run by this Mission and is conducted by the Indian Sisters. This dispensary was established in 1940.

Private hospitals and dispensaries in the industrial areas run by the employers and under the Employees' State Insurance Scheme have been mentioned in the text on Industries.

HEALTH SANITARY ORGANISATION.

This has been discussed elsewhere in the text on "Local Self-Government".

RURAL AND URBAN SANITATION.

This also has been discussed elsewhere in the text on "Local Self-Government".

It may be repeated here regarding the water-supply in the district that there is piped water-supply only at Arrah and Sasaram. The rest of the towns, i.e., Buxar, Jagdishpur, Dumraon, Bhabua, Dehri-on-Sone, etc., have their supply of drinking water from wells and tube-wells. In most of the villages there are *pucca* and *kutcha* wells and tube-wells for the supply of drinking water.

ANTI-MALARIAL MEASURES.

In order to eradicate the scourge of malaria an Anti-Malaria Survey team conducted a survey with regard to the incidence of malaria at Rohtas and Adhaura hills of the district in the months of October and November, 1951, respectively.

So far the Rohtas hills are concerned, the survey revealed an appalling situation. At village Babhan Talab, it was found that 40 per cent of the population was suffering from malaria, whereas in village Balatu, the percentage was 8.7. Parasite-rate was recorded at 13.3 per cent which was considered to be high and the population formed a reservoir of malaria infection. Culicifacies, which is responsible for transmitting malaria, was collected from the residential places However, fluviatilis, which is suspected to transmit malaria during winter was not found.

The sanitary condition was very unsatisfactory, which was subject to further deterioration during the rainy season. Poverty, scanty clothing and mal-nutrition were the contributory causes. The only medical help possible was available at the District Board dispensaries of the area and the Dalmianagar and Dehri hospitals. The help was inadequate and due to bad communications was not always available to the villagers.

The survey of the Adhaura hills showed no less striking facts than that of Rohtas hills. The people of this area, apart from being illiterate and backward, were superstitious and had a strong belief that buffalo milk carried malaria.

The spleen census, 1951, recorded that the area was "hyperendemic" as at village Dumrama the spleen-rate was found to be as high as 63 per cent As high as 41.7 per cent of parasite-rate was recorded on the hills, which showed that most of the inhabitants were suffering from malaria and formed reservoir of infection. High endemicity was recorded in most of the villages of this area. Culicifacies was found breeding in canals, paddy fields and at other places where water got stagnant.

For the first time only in a portion of Bhabua subdivision of the district of Shahabad, the anti-malarial measures were launched during the year 1956-57. At that time it was a sub-unit under the National Malaria Control Unit functioning at Daltonganj in the district of Palamau* It functioned under Daltonganj unit till 1958-59 During 1959-60, when three Anti-Malaria Control units at Arrah, Buxar and Sasaram were established in the district, the Bhabua sub-unit amalgamated in the Sasaram unit.

When only the Bhabua sub unit was functioning in the district, only epidemiological assessments used to be conducted till the Surveillance Programme was introduced in early 1961 The information regarding Bhabua area is mentioned here separately As a control measure only two rounds of spraying of D D T. used to be done.

The assessment survey record of this area is as follows:—

	Year.							
	1956-57.	1957-58	1958-59.	1959-60.	1960-61.	1961-62.	1962-63.	1963-64.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Spleen rate ..	66.6	54.1	2 14	2.78	0.7	Due to introduction of Surveillance Programme, the epidemiological assessment was dropped.		
Child parasite-rate.	Nil	Nil	0 0	0.12	0 0			
Infant parasite-rate	Nil	Nil	0.0	0.15	0 0			

When the units at Arrah, Buxar and Sasaram were started in 1959-60, there was a coverage of the houses during spraying of insecticide, i.e, D. D. T.

* *District Gazetteer of Palamau*, 1961, page 453.

Since 1962-63 onwards the spraying has been withdrawn as per recommendations of the Independent Appraisal Team, Government of India.

The epidemiological survey of the above areas from 1959-60 to 1960-61 mentions the following figures:—

Name of the unit.	Spleen-rate.		Child parasite rate.		Infant parasite-rate.	
	1959-60.	1960-61.	1959-60.	1960-61.	1959-60.	1960-61.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Arrah ..	7.6	2.55	0.38	0.32	0.0	0.0
Buxar ..	2.7	1.61	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sasaram ..	1 82	0.40	0.35	0.0	0.0	0.0

After 1960-61, the assessment survey was also withdrawn with the launching of the Surveillance Programme in early 1961 as mentioned earlier.

VACCINATION.

Vaccination is well recognised for preventing small-pox. As vaccination has had a chequered career and by constant official efforts has become successful a detailed description is given. Regarding vaccination Dr. Hamilton Buchanan's 'An Account of the District of Shahabad in 1812-13', mentions that during his tours only 30 inoculators for small-pox were living in the district but they were unable to cover the whole district, hence, a number of inoculators came from the north side of the river Ganga. Of the late, the practice seemed to have been fast gaining.

Hunter's 'A Statistical Account of Bengal, 1878', gives some information regarding the progress of vaccination. He mentions that in 1873, ten vaccinators were employed to conduct vaccine operations and the result of their work was that out of 5,700 persons vaccinated 4,994 cases proved successful, 35 doubtful, and 671 failed. "In one place an outbreak of small-pox was traced to inoculation, which had been carried on by two old inoculators who had received vaccinating certificates They admitted the charge, but pleaded that they were compelled to return to their former practice, as the people declined to pay for vaccination."*

* *A Statistical Account of Bengal*, 1878, Vol. XII, Gaya and Shahabad, page 288.

Further information on vaccination is furnished by the 'Twenty Years' Statistics, District Shahabad'. It gives the following figures of vaccination from 1883-84 to 1903-04:—*

Area, 4,373 square miles. Population—Census 1881, 1,949,900; Census 1891, 2,000,579; Census 1901, 1,962,296.

Years.	Average number of vaccinators.	Total number of primary vaccinations.	Total re-vaccinations.	Total persons vaccinated.	Percentage of successful cases. Primary.	Re-vaccination,	Degree of protection afforded to Infants in Rural area. Estimated birth.	Mortality among infants under one year.	Surviving population.	Number successfully vaccinated.	Number successfully vaccinated per 10,000.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1883-84 ..	26	8,215	63	8,278	93.55	60.31	..	..	..	..	..
1884-85 ..	66	38,526	105	38,631	97.88	36.19	..	..	..	..	..
1885-86 ..	64	28,316	106	28,422	97 00	26.41	..	..	..	..	..
1886-87 ..	91	54,143	74	54,217	97.39	17.56	..	..	..	..	..
1887-88 ..	43	25,524	34	25,558	96.36	67.64	73,833	8,211	65,622	2,462	375.1
1888-89 ..	49	22,759	28	22,787	96.23	64.28	73,833	10,436	63,397	1,600	252.3
1889-90 ..	39	30,406	125	30,531	97.47	19.20	73,833	8,419	65,414	1,388	212.1
1890-91 ..	59	32,383	36	32,419	96 33	66.67	73,833	8,109	65,724	2,290	348 4
1891-92 ..	65	26,236	10	26,246	96 00	70.00	76,672	8,061	68,611	2,097	305.6
1892-93 ..	74	23,006	6	23,012	94 92	16.66	77,486	10,462	67,024	1,811	270.2
1893-94 .	98	37 466	22	37,488	97 15	90 90	77,486	12,422	65,064	2,884	443.2
1894-95 .	72	29,620	144	29,764	96 63	63.88	77,509	14,496	68,013	2,427	385.1
1895-96 ..	77	40,040	342	40,382	98 63	41.22	77,509	12,749	64,760	2,946	454.9
1896-97 ..	79	50,376	651	51,027	98 89	22.58	77,375	14,302	63,073	4,615	731.6
1897-98 ..	71	28,604	876	29,480	97.54	45 77	77,375	15,027	62,296	4,505	723.1
1898-99 ..	73	25.367	449	25,816	97.67	31.40	77,375	12,583	64,792	3,936	607 4
1899-1900 ..	72	23,568	337	23,905	96.95	37.98	96,719	19,409	77,310	4,748	514.1
1900-01 ..	82	27,882	499	28,381	97.12	44.49	96,719	18,096	78,623	6,052	515.3
1901-02 ..	82	32,992	789	33,781	98 01	48 54	92,229	15,240	76,989	10,518	1,365.9
1902-03 ..	96	52,421	476	52,897	98 07	41.80	74,042	16,863	57,179	12,898	2,255 7
1903-04 .	99	51,682	563	52,245	98.00	55.59	71,939	19,303	52,636	11,449	2,175.1

* *Twenty Years' Statistics, District Shahabad*, page 88.

In the old *District Gazetteer of Shahabad*, 1906, revised in 1924, it has been mentioned that there was no compulsory vaccination system excepting in the Municipal areas. This was performed by salaried vaccinators in towns, but in villages licensed vaccinators were to do this job for a fee of 2 annas per person vaccinated. The number of vaccinators was not steady but fluctuating. However, generally about a hundred were employed. There were four Sub-Inspectors and one District Inspector under the control of the Civil Surgeon to supervise the work. The district as a whole was opposed to vaccination at first. The opposition was prevalent in all the *Bhojpuri* speaking races of adjoining districts in contrast to the *Maghi*-speaking districts of Gaya and Patna, where strong opposition was not noticeable. At first the measure was met with strong opposition, but the consent of Raja Bikramajit Singh of Dumraon to vaccine his grandsons had a very good effect. The hostility to vaccination gradually began to decline as is evident from the fact that in 1900-01 the number of vaccinations was only 11.78 per mille whereas in 1921-22 the figure rose to 38 per mile.*

In between the years 1925 to 1950 vaccinations and inoculations were being regularly carried on but the figures for the same are not available. From the later figures, i.e., 1951 to 1963, it appears that the people have become much more conscious of the need of vaccination.

Primary vaccination is now compulsory in the whole country including the Shahabad district. In the Municipal areas it is carried on by the vaccinators employed by the Municipalities functioning in the district. Mass vaccination in the rural areas is carried on by the vaccinators employed by the District Board. Vaccinations are now made free.

The total number of persons given primary vaccination from 1947 to 1950 was 1,85,077 and 1,33,880 persons were re-vaccinated. During the First Five-Year Plan (1951–55) 2,44,399 persons were given primary vaccination and 5,12,992 persons were re-vaccinated. Primary vaccination and re-vaccination given during the Second Five-Year Plan (1956—60) were 2,87,117 and 12,37,588 respectively.**

The table below shows the primary vaccination and re-vaccination conducted in the district from 1961 to 1963.—†

Year.	Primary vaccination.	Re-vaccination.
1961	59,371	4,64,919
1962	1,13,139	4,49,018
1963	1,47,850	14,53,065

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad*, 1924, page 61.

** *Shahabad Zile ki Pragati, Azadi ke Chaudah Varsh*, page 15.

† Civil Surgeon's Office, Arrah.

The State Government have recently launched the Small-pox Eradication Scheme. Since the introduction of this scheme in 1963 the number of persons re-vaccinated during 1963 has abnormally risen to 14,53,065 as against 4,64,919 and 4,49,018 in 1961 and 1962 respectively.

During January. 1964, the total number of persons given primary vaccination and re-vaccination were 21,835 and 1,70,468 respectively.*

INOCULATION.

From 1947 to 1950 the total number of persons inoculated against cholera was 24,88,682 and 3,89,011 wells were disinfected but during the First Five-Year Plan (1951—55) only 23,23,182 persons were given inoculation and 7,61,563 wells were disinfected During the Second Five-Year Plan (1956—60) 52,35,688 persons were inoculated and 13,67,493 wells were disinfected. In this period the inoculation figures rose abnormally because of the fact that during this period extensive measures were taken in eradicating the disease (cholera)* The total number of persons given inoculation during 1961, 1962 and 1963 was 13,88,093, 12 38,944 and 12,60,816 respectively. During January, 1964, 4,580 persons were inoculated and 8,442 wells were disinfected

SLUM CLEARANCE, ETC.

Slums are, in a way the by-products of urbanisation and industrialisation We have discussed elsewhere the quick trends of urbanisation in different parts of the district and details have been given about Arrah. It is unfortunate that urbanisation has been left to itself and has more of an oblique growth People are building houses on the peripheries of the towns without any definite planning to a larger interest. Sanitary measures taken by the municipalities or other local bodies are far too inadequate Slums have been allowed to exist even in the heart of the towns and the slums have naturally encouraged more of insanitation The very fact that only a small percentage of the houses in the towns have lavatories, suggests the acuteness of the problem

Enquiries made from the office of the Town Planner, Bihar, have not elicited any information that any definite planning is going to be implemented soon for the towns of Shahabad district

There are definite pockets of slums in the towns of Arrah, Buxar and Sasaram. There has been no programme for the clearance of the slums or the rehabilitation of the slum population in other areas. Any slum clearance programme now will be a costly scheme as land price has very much appreciated.

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* Civil Surgeon's office, Arrah.

Industrialisation, particularly in Dehri (Dalmianagar) area has also led to an acute housing problem and the question of slums has become important there also.

It has also to be mentioned that there is no underground drainage in any of the urban areas of this district. As a result, although malaria has gone down the number of mosquitoes has gone up multiplying. The mosquitoes carry filaria germs and the mosquito problem is a menace even in Arrah. The provision of protected water-supply has been discussed elsewhere. On the whole the administrative set up for the maintenance of public health and sanitation in urban areas has been found to be rather ill-equipped due mainly to financial grounds to meet the ever-growing problem squarely. There is also a want of civic sense on the part of most of the residents who think that it is only the duty of the municipality to maintain the sanitary services.

The problem in the rural areas is not so acute in normal times. But the problem of the maintenance of public health and sanitation becomes very acute when there are epidemics. On the whole the administrative set up of public health, sanitation and medical services in the rural areas may be described to be rather inadequate if we take the number of doctors available with reference to the population. The number of beds available is too inadequate for the population they are meant. There is also a concentration of doctors in the towns while there is a serious dearth of qualified medical practitioners in the rural areas. The Block doctors could have done a lot if only they had a little of missionary zeal.

It has also to be mentioned that there are no medical and public health research centres. Although a comparatively advanced district, Shahabad doctors probably have not made any remarkable contribution in medical research. There is also very little research work done in the Government hospitals although it cannot be said that there are no facilities On the other hand the Government hospitals and dispensaries are flooded with very interesting cases for clinical research The district and particularly the hilly areas has indigenous herbs which are utilised by the *Vaids* and the *Hakims*. They do not appear to have been scientifically studied.

It is also unfortunate that there should not be a proper appreciation of the need for the maintenance of correct statistics. It is also a common complaint of the private practitioners that they have to face a serious unequal competition with the Government doctors Private practice is now allowed to the Government doctors at the hospitals and dispensaries. A common complaint is that the Government doctors pay much more attention to their private practice and that at the cost of the patients in the hospitals.

It is also a common complaint that the market is flooded with spurious drugs. Many reputed pharmaceutical firms do a good business in the district through their medical representatives but they also complain about the sub-standard medicines of pharmaceutical firms of doubtful standard. Drug control has not been very firm and the Civil Surgeon who has multifarious duties can hardly be expected to do much. The Inspectorate for Drug Control, throughout the State is inadequately staffed There is also no check on the marketing of processed foods either in tins or in packets. There is very little check on the sale of contaminated cooked food or over-ripe cut fruits by the road side or near an open drain Thousands of meals are sold daily in Arrah, in very uncongenial environs. Highly adulterated cooking medium is commonly used for such meals. It has, however, to be mentioned that the problems discussed are not peculiar to Shahabad district alone.

CHAPTER XV.

SOCIAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC LIFE.

LABOUR WELFARE.

Although the main economy of the district is agricultural, there are some organised industries and mining operations Industrialism is spreading in the southern part of the district. At Dalmianagar, there is a group of industries under the Rohtas Industries, Ltd. The industries comprise of factories for manufacture of cement, paper, sugar, chemical, *vanaspati*, etc. At Banjari, there is another cement factory, the Kalyanpur Lime and Cement Works, Ltd. Mining operations are concentrated in the slopes of the Kaimur Range in the southern part of the district Lime and stone quarries, etc, are situated at various places over a wide range Exploitation is being done at Banjari, Rohtas, Murli, Pipradih, Baulia, etc., in Sasaram subdivision The mining of pyrite is being done at Amjhore by the Pyrite and Chemical Development Corporation of India

The district grows paddy abundantly and naturally there are a number of rice mills at Nokha, Mohania, Buxar, etc There is a factory producing lanterns at Dumraon. The labour force is found more organised in these industrial areas There is a huge unorganised labour force scattered all over the district in small manufacturing units, shops and commercial establishments There is also a vast unorganised labour force engaged in agriculture

More attention towards amelioration of the conditions of the labour has been paid after Independence in 1947 Important legislations like the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, Minimum Wages Act, 1948, Factories Act, 1948, Bihar Shops and Establishments Act, 1953, etc, were passed and are in force in the State With the growing importance of the labour force, the machinery to see to the implementation of these legislations, has also expanded

A Labour Officer was posted in this district with his headquarters at Arrah in the later part of 1954 Since October, 1963, there is one Superintendent of Labour with jurisdiction over the whole of the district. There are two Labour Officers under him. One has jurisdiction over two subdivisions, viz., Bhabua and Sasaram, and the other over Arrah Sadar and Buxar.

The labourers of the district could be broadly divided into three categories, viz, industrial, agricultural and the labourers employed in shops and commercial establishments.

AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

Agricultural labour force naturally forms the major portion of the total labour force. The agricultural labourers are generally

drawn from the families of the agriculturists and other landless labourers. The agricultural labour force can be broadly divided into two categories, viz, the unattached agricultural labourers and the attached or bonded agricultural labourers The agricultural labourers of the first category get only their wages but they are free to accept the work of any cultivator or take up jobs other than doing labour in the fields. The attached or bonded labourers are given some cultivable land or a hut to live in addition to the wages but they are under an obligation to work under the particular cultivator as and when required They are not free to sell their services elsewhere without the permission of their masters Often a loan taken long before is at the background There may be attached or bonded labourers from generation to generation. Mobility and freedom to sell their labour anywhere they like are not for the bonded labourers

The agricultural labour force is unorganised and it has very little of bargaining strength It could always be exploited by the comparatively richer or better placed cultivators The main spirit behind the enactment of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, was to safeguard the minimum amount of wages to such unorganised labour force. Minimum rates of wages for the agricultural labourer have been fixed for Patna Division including Shahabad district under this Act The rates have been fixed in kind with their equivalent in cash The rates vary according to the different agricultural operations and the rates for a particular agricultural operation again vary between the irrigated and the non-irrigated areas. The rates in the irrigated areas are higher

For implementation of the provisions of this Act there is an organisation consisting of eight Labour Inspectors posted at different places with a specified jurisdiction Their work is supervised by the Labour Officers under the control of the Superintendent of Labour. The Labour Officers and the Labour Superintendent have been declared as the Inspectors under the Minimum Wages Act

There is no trade union movement among this class of labourers. In their present circumstances it is difficult for this movement to strike roots It is a fact that the agricultural labourers do not always get their wages according to the Act

INDUSTRIAL LABOUR.

The total number of factories registered under the Factories Act, 1948 in this district is 530 and the number of workers employed therein is very large. Amongst the factories, the Rohtas Industries, Ltd., Dalmianagar is the biggest employer. More than ten thousand workers are employed in the factories under the Rohtas Industries. A considerable number of workers is also employed in the lime, stone quarries, etc., mentioned previously.

The industrial workers have well-organised trade unions. There are about 46 trade unions of workers registered under the Indian Trade Union Act, 1926. This also includes some trade unions for the shops and commercial employees and the units in the unorganised sectors such as *bidi* employees, etc. The industrial workers generally are better off than the agricultural or commercial labour force inasmuch as they get higher wages. They have the advantage of collective bargaining and have often taken collective steps by strikes or lockouts or otherwise to increase their wages In cases of the cement and sugar factories the wages have been recommended by the Central Cement Wage Board and the Central Sugar Wage Board respectively The minimum rates of wages in rice, oil, *dal* and flour mills have been fixed under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948.

SHOPS AND COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS.

The provisions of the Bihar Shops and Establishments Act, 1953 have been enforced in all the municipal areas of the district. Such places are Arrah, Buxar, Dumraon, Jagdishpur, Dehri, Dalmianagar, Sasaram and Bhabua There are about 7,000 registered shops in the district and about 4,000 workers are employed Although the rates of wages have not been fixed under this Act, provisions have been made regarding the hours of work, weekly rest, leave facilities, etc. The Labour Officers and the Superintendent of Labour have been declared as the Inspecting Officers and Additional Inspecting Officers respectively under this Act and they are responsible for the implementation and enforcement of the provisions of the Act

In the Factories Act, 1948, provisions for the welfare of the workers have been incorporated so far as the working hours are concerned. But the workers need more of amenities for a decent living Provision of such amenities is generally the responsibility of the employers But to give a lead the State Government have come forward and set up Labour Welfare Centres at different places of Labour concentration. Two such State Labour Welfare Centres are located in this district, one at Dalmianagar and the other at Banjari. Facilities of library, reading room, in-door and out-door games, training in sewing, etc, medicines, classes for the children of the workers and children corners for games, UNICEF milk distribution for children, pre-natal and post-natal case and advice, health propaganda, cinema, ambulance and training-*cum*-production centre are provided in the State Labour Welfare Centre at Dalmianagar which is an 'A' type Centre. In the 'B' type State Labour Welfare Centre at Banjari all the facilities except the last three mentioned above, are provided. There is the requisite staff to look after the Centres There is one Voluntary Labour Welfare Centre at Bank, near Dalmianagar which has been set up with the

mutual efforts of the workers and the employer. The State Government grants a suitable amount for the construction of buildings of 'C' type Centres.

The workers at Dalmianagar and Banjari have been covered under the Employees State Insurance Scheme. Under this scheme the registered workers and their families get extensive medical facilities, sickness compensation, etc. A number of doctors including lady doctors have been posted in the dispensaries. Both in-door and out-door treatments are given. The Employees State Insurance medical officers at Dalmianagar have got some beds in the factory hospital. The doctors at Dalmianagar have a very busy time while there is not much work at the Banjari Employees State Insurance Dispensary The Bihar Maternity Benefit Act, 1947, is applicable to Shahabad district.

Industrial housing is one of the main problems. The managements of big establishments like the Rohtas Industries, Ltd., Dalmianagar, and Kalyanpur Lime and Cement Works, Ltd., Banjari, have provided some quarters to their employees The State Government have given a loan and subsidy to these managements for constructing suitable houses for the workers and many have been constructed at Dalmianagar The Housing Department of the State Government have built about 500 houses at Dalmianagar for the workers which are being allotted The housing provided so far either by the employers or the State Government is not adequate The industrialisation is going apace and it is difficult for the housing problem to catch up

Prohibition has been mentioned as a State policy in the Constitution but it has not yet been enforced in any part of Bihar. The policy of the State Government is to control the consumption of the intoxicants by raising the prices and imposing other restrictions regarding consumption, etc. There has been a gradual increase in the prices of most of the intoxicants. The price of the country liquor in 1952 and the existing price which came into force with effect from 1st October 1962 are given below*:—

Area		Price (per L.P gallon)** from 1st April 1952 Rs	a	p	Present rate (i e in 1963) per L.P. Litre. Rs P.
50 U P —***					
	Urban	18	12	0	5 20
	Rural	18	12	0	5.20
72.5 U P.—					
	Urban	17	12	0	4 80
	Rural	15	10	0	4 40
80 0 U.P	Rural	7	13	0	2 70

* *Report on the Working of the Excise Department for the year* 1952-53, Appendix B P XLVIII.

** L. P = London Proof Gallon

*** U. P. = Under Proof.

Even after the rise in price there has been an increase in the consumption as well as in the revenue in Shahabad district. This is noticeable from the statement below for 1958-59 to 1962-63 (March, 1963):—

	1958-59.	1959-60.	1960-61	1961-62.	1962-63
Total revenue derived from distillery liquor in rupees.	18,39,649	22,19,735	25,00,602	27,42,721	3,08,468
Consumption of distillery liquor in L P. Gallons.	91,097.8	107,245.1	112,680 6	117,817.5	548,428.16 L P. Litres

GANJA

The price of *ganja* has increased from Rs. 75 per seer to Rs. 108 60 per seer or Rs 116 40 per kg. with effect from 1st December, 1961. There has been no rise in the prices of *bhang* and opium per *tola* and are 25 P and Rs 8 respectively. The following chart indicates the consumption of *ganja*, *bhang* and opium in Shahabad district —

Year	*Ganja*	*Bhang*	Opium	
	Maunds.	Maunds.	Maunds	Sr.
1940-41	95	37	4	27
1950-51	61	93	3	17½
1960-61	71	49	2	0
1961-62	42	50	0	½
1962-63	1137 850Kg	1651 154Kg.	Nil	

As regards opium, restriction has been imposed on the consumption. The Bihar and Orissa Opium Smoking Act, 1928, which came into force with effect from 1st January 1929, requires that only those persons who are twenty-five or above twenty-five years and are in the habit of smoking opium, after getting their names registered in the prescribed manner under the Act, may be granted a fixed quantity of opium Since 1st April 1959, the sale of opium for oral consumption has been further regulated and now opium can be only procured under medical certificate for health purposes

Any person other than a registered smoker who prepares opium or has in possession any prepared opium or smokes or otherwise uses prepared opium is liable to be punished for each offence with imprisonment for a term which may be extended to one year or with

fine which may extend to Rs. 1,000 or with both. The recent restriction is calculated to cut down new recruits to opium consumption.

There are also some restrictions for the consumption of country liquor. For instance, the premises of any country liquor shop cannot be used for consuming liquor and indulging in drunken bouts. The idea is that if people will have to take their liquor home for drinking, there will be lesser consumption. But these measures have had very little effect and the incidence of the consumption of intoxicants has certainly gone up and the premises of country liquor shops in the district of Shahabad are used for consuming liquor In summer *tari* or fermented palm juice as a beverage is very largely consumed by the poorer section throughout the district. Sasaram brand of *tari* is said to be particularly relished.

In this district two voluntary social organisations, namely, *Bharat Sewak Samaj* and *Harijan Sewak Sangh* are interested in reducing the consumption of intoxicants

ADVANCEMENT OF BACKWARD CLASSES AND TRIBES.

The population of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes in the district of Shahabad during 1951 census were as follows* –

	Persons	Males	Females
Scheduled Castes ..	3,67,458	1,79 632	1,87,826
Scheduled Tribes	16,993	8,814	8,179
Backward Classes .	3,15,762	1,52,389	1,63,373

Persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes were and are more or less evenly scattered throughout the district. The Scheduled Tribes are mainly confined to Bhabua and Sasaram subdivisions particularly in Adhaura, Nauhatta and Rohtas Blocks respectively. Their present subdivisionwise distribution is given below**:—

Subdivisions	Scheduled Castes			Scheduled Tribes		
	Persons.	Males.	Females	Persons	Males.	Females
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Sadar ..	147,879	71,934	75,945	216	132	84
Buxar ..	78,798	38,298	40,500	1,015	614	401
Sasaram ..	175,906	87,896	88,010	8,783	4,412	4,371
Bhabua	112,464	56,657	55,807	12 160	6,090	6,070
District Total .	515,047	254,785	260,262	22,174	11,248	10,926
Rural ..	494,089	243,778	250,311	21,792	11,036	10,756
Urban ..	20,958	11,007	9,951	382	212	170

* *District Census Hand-Book of Shahabad*, 1951, page 76.

** *Census of India*, 1961, *Volume IV*, Bihar, Part II A, General Population Tables.

After the attainment of independence the State Government took up actively the amelioration of Backward Classes, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as a matter of policy. A separate department at Government level known as the Welfare Department was created. This department works through a District Welfare Officer with his headquarters at Arrah. He works under the administrative control of the District Magistrate. The District Welfare Officer has his own staff consisting of one Assistant District Welfare Officer, 18 Welfare Inspectors and 22 *Kalyan* Grain *Gola Sewaks*.

The main functions of the District Welfare Officer relate to the removal of the disabilities of Backward Classes, Scheduled Castes and Tribes, spread of education among them by opening schools and making arrangements for stipends, hostels, loans, subsidies, medical aid, grain-*golas* and sinking wells, etc.

ECONOMIC WELFARE.

The economic incidence of such people is generally very low. The condition of the Backward Classes (Hindus) is, however, better and most of them have lands. The members of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes are generally landless and are in debt. But, even if lands are available, seeds and cash credit have to be made available to save them from the Mahajans who give loans, at exorbitant rates.*

GRAIN-GOLAS.

Twenty-two grain *golas*, i.e., 11 for Scheduled Castes and 11 for Scheduled Tribes have been set up in the district till August, 1963. The object is to give seed on credit and grain in times of scarcity. These grain-*golas* supply seeds at 10 per cent rate of interest. Previously this facility was for the persons belonging to the Scheduled Tribes only but due to subsequent amendment in the Grain-*Golas* Rules, Scheduled Castes and other Backward Classes of Annexure I, may also get the benefit of these *golas*.

The Block Development Officer or Circle Officer has been authorised to sanction the quantity of grain to be given and usually a quantity from 2 to 10 maunds of grain is sanctioned according to the need of the individual and availability of grain in the stock. The list of the 22 grain-*golas* and other details are given below:--

Name of the place where G. G. is situated	Name of concerning P. S.	Date on which started.	Loans during 1962-63 (till July, 1963).
Harijan grain-golas—			Maunds.
Shahpur	Shahpur	28-3-1958	425
Jagdishpur	Jagdishpur	23-3-1957	503

* The Constitution had laid down who belong to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes. Please see the text on the People (P. C. R. C.).

Name of the place where G.G. is situated.	Name of concerning P. S.	Date on which started.	Loans during 1962-63 (till July, 1963).
Harijan grain-*golas*—*concld.*			Maunds.
Itarhi	Itarhi	15-4-1958	464
Dumraon	Dumraon	Not available	335
Bhabua	Bhabua	14-6-1957	722
Hatta	Chainpur	Not available	367
Sasaram	Sasaram	29-3-1957	603
Chenari	Chenari	10-6-1957	658
Saraiyan	Rohtas	2-7-1957	300
Bikramganj	Bikramganj	4-3-1960	161
Kargahar	Kargahar	30-3-1960	392
Scheduled Tribes grain-*golas*—			
Karkatgarh	Chainpur	Not available	584
Semara	Ditto	22-2-1956	1,381
Dahar	Adhaura	January, 1952	1,185
Adhaura	Ditto	January, 1956	1,331
Bahera	Ditto	February, 1956	1,106
Nagatoli	Rohtas	8-6-1956	949
Pipardiha	Nauhatta	10-1-1960	559
Rehal	Ditto	1952	844
Nauhatta	Ditto	21-1-1956	644
Bhagwanpur	Bhagwanpur	1961-62	501
Bharkura	Chenari	1961-62	500

AGRICULTURAL SUBSIDY.

The agricultural subsidy granted to the agriculturists belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes from 1960-61 to 1962-63 is given below:—

	Year.		
	1960-61.	1961-62.	1962-63
	Rs.	Rs	Rs.
Scheduled Castes	18,113	8,300	7,500
Scheduled Tribes	4,000	4,000	4,000
Backward Classes	500 (The scheme was dropped).		

The agricultural subsidy is meant for the purchase of bullocks, manure, seed and agricultural implements. In view of the poor condition of the agriculturists and frequent droughts and occasional floods, the amount of agricultural subsidy may not be sufficient. This is an outright grant-in-aid and is not repayable.

HOUSING SCHEME.

In order to provide the poor and homeless Harijans with houses the housing scheme was introduced The construction of a house is sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,250 per house, out of which the Government contribution is Rs 937.50 nP, i e., 75 per cent per house. Generally, the beneficiary contributes his share in form of labour, raw materials, etc. In Shahabad district 151 houses under

the State and Central Schemes have been constructed and 115 houses are under construction. The number of houses constructed is not adequate The State and Central Governments have spent Rs. 1,44,562 50, up to the end of the Second Five-Year Plan for the construction of 151 houses The number of houses and the name of the Blocks under different schemes are given below.—

Name of the Block	No of houses	No. of houses under construction.
Barhara	3	Nil.
Bhabua	10	Nil
Bhagwanpur	9	24
Bihea	24	Nil
Brahmapur	4	4
Buxar	Nil	20
Chenari ..	15	2
Dumraon	16	16
Itarhi ..	3	16
Jagdishpur	15	Nil.
Koilwar	6	5
Nasriganj	8	Nil
Rajpur ..	Nil	16
Rohtas ..	14	Nil
Simri ..	16	Nil
Udwantnagar	8	12
TOTAL	151	115

The help rendered cannot be said to be adequate but a beginning has been made.

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES.

Both the Central Government and the State Government are interested to spread educational facilities. The Scheduled Castes Scholarship Fund was constituted in 1944 by the Central Government and was thrown open to the Scheduled Tribes after four years and in 1949 50 it was extended to the other Backward Classes also. This scholarship is only for post-graduate study Under the present arrangement post-matric scholarships are administered by a separate Backward Classes Scholarship Board of the Union Ministry of Education It was felt that the sanction and disbursement of post-matric scholarships from the Central level added to the delay in sanction and payment and so the Ministry of Education have delegated the powers of sanctioning post matric scholarships to the State Government and the Union Territories, vide their circular letter no. F 28-1|59 S-4, dated the 11th July 1959 Stipends and book grants are awarded to the students of Backward Classes on the recommendations of the District Stipend Committee. In Bihar advance allotments are made every year to each district on the basis of the population of Backward Classes and the number of scholarships awarded in previous years.

The District Welfare Officer, Arrah, receives applications and places them before the District Stipend Committee. The awards are sanctioned on the recommendations of this Committee and the amounts are placed at the disposal of the Headmasters in the case of Government schools. In case of non-Governmental schools it is the District Welfare Officer who prepares the bill and sends it to the Block Development Officers for disbursement through the media of *Gram Panchayats* in the primary and middle stages and through the media of headquarters in the higher secondary schools. In the recent orders of the State Government, vide notification no. 6034, dated the 11th May 1962, Block Stipend Committee have been constituted for award of stipends at primary and middle stages. In Higher Secondary stage the District Stipend Committee continues to remain as stated above.

In Shahabad district during the Second Five-Year Plan period, 245 Scheduled Tribes students were awarded stipends and book grants for Rs. 41,460; 1,622 Scheduled Castes students were given Rs. 6,51,995; and 2,550 Backward Muslim students were given Rs. 2,89,961*. The amount of stipends, book grants, etc., from 1960-61 to 1962-63 for the college students is given below:—

Name of the Scheme.	No. of students.			Stipends and book grants.					
	1960-61.	1961-62.	1962-63	1960-61.		1961-62.		1962-63.	
				Allotment.	Expenditure	Allotment.	Expenditure.	Allotment.	Expenditure.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
				Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1 Stipend to Scheduled Tribes. college students.	13	11	22	5,228	5,228	5,148	5,148	6,225	5,906
2. Stipend to Scheduled Castes college students.	30	339	507	1,28,058	1,27,988	2,26,677	2,26,677	2,71,651	2,57,656
3. Stipend to Backward Classes college students.	137	98	150	2,91,543	28,898	37,167	37,005	31,886	25,273
4. Colleges for the loss of fees.	.			47,800	47,132	95,800	95,300	97,000	68,079

*Source: District Education Office.

The statement below shows the stipends, book grants, etc., for school students from 1960-61 to 1962-63:—

Name of the Scheme	No. of students,		
	1960-61	1961-62.	1962-63.
1	2	3	4
1. Stipends to Scheduled Tribes.	120	150	169
2. Stipends to Scheduled Castes.	3,786	4,895	6,722
3. Stipends to other Backward Classes.	2,565	2,975	3,692

Stipends and book grants.					
1960-61.		1961-62.		1962-63.	
Allotment.	Expenditure.	Allotment.	Expenditure.	Allotment.	Expenditure.
5	6	7	8	9	10
Rs.	Rs	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
7,650	7,650	22,300	22,300	23,700	22,382
2,32,669	2,31,194	3,87,681	3,87,681	4,24,981	4,02,369
1,00,656	99,093	1,16,407	1,16,407	1,16,006	1,01,974

The table below shows the number of residential schools for the Harijans and the Adivasis along with the number of students residing therein:—

Name of the schools	Name of places where located.	No. of students residing therein.
Harijans—		
1. Senior Residential School ..	Arrah ..	100
2. Ditto .	Bhabua ..	50
3. Ditto .	Buxar ..	50
4. Ditto .	Sasaram ..	56
Adivasis—		
1. Senior Residential School .	Deori, P.-S. Adhaura	70
2. Junior Residential School ..	Athan, P.-S. Adhaura	28
3. Ditto ..	Sarki, P.-S. Adhaura	28
4. Ditto ..	Kohuan, P.-S. Adhaura	47
5. Ditto	Bargaon, P.-S. Adhaura	48
6. Ditto	Samra, P.-S. Chainpur	51
7. Ditto .. .	Masani, P.-S. Chainpur	25
8. Ditto	Nagatoli, P.-S. Rohtas	22
9. Ditto ..	Budhana, P.-S. Rohtas	29
10. Ditto	Dumarian, P.-S. Nauhatta	30

The students residing in residential schools are provided with free boarding and lodging, clothing, etc. One cook-*cum*-servant in each school has been appointed. The number of cook-*cum*-servant depends upon the number of students admitted in the school. There are also medical attendants to look after their health. The entire expenditure is borne by the State Government. The Senior Residential School at Arrah is given Rs 47,300 every year for meeting these expenses and the schools at Bhabua, Buxar and Sasaram receive Rs. 78,282 each annually.

The Senior Residential School at Deori receives Rs. 31,600 yearly and the other nine junior schools receive Rs. 88,300 (about Rs. 9,819 each) yearly

HOSTELS.

In order to solve the problem of accommodation of the students of these Backward Communities State Government have sanctioned hostels at different places for which the expenditure is borne by the Government The table below shows the Harijan and Adivasi hostels in the district —

	Name of hostel	Number of students residing therein.
1	Harijan Hostel, Arrah I	48
2	Harijan Hostel, Arrah II	35
3.	Harijan Hostel, Bikramganj for school students	41
4.	Harijan Hostel, Bikramganj for college students.	24
5	Harijan Hostel, Surajpura for school students.	33
6.	Harijan Hostel, Dehri-on-Sone for school students.	13
7.	Harijan Hostel, Sasaram for school and college students.	56
8	Harijan Hostel, Buxar for school and college students	40
9.	Adivasi Hostel, Bhabua for school and college students.	13

The Harijan hostels at Arrah are for the college students only. The hostel buildings in Arrah were constructed at Government cost of Rs. 1,08,000 each. The other hostels in the district are located in rented houses.

Usually every hostel has one Superintendent, one cook and one medical attendant. The house rent and the cost of utensils are borne by the State Government. No seat rent is charged from the students. Every boarder who belongs to the Scheduled Tribes and

Scheduled Castes also gets a grant of Rs. 20 at the school stage. There is no exclusive reservation for the boys of the Backward Classes only If seats are available, the students of other castes are also admitted.

Drinking Water Facilities.

The table following shows the number of wells sunk for drinking from 1957-58 to 1962-63.—

Year.	No. of wells taken up.		No. of wells completed.		No. under construction.	
	Adivasis.	Harijans.	Adivasis.	Harijans	Adivasis	Harijans
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1957-58	6	Nil	5	Nil	1	Nil
1958-59	Nil	2	Nil	2	Nil	Nil
1959-60	Nil	12	Nil	10	Nil	2
1960-61	10	18	7	6	3	12
1961-62 ..	4	57	4	26	Nil	31
1962-63 .	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil.

The Government contributes 75 per cent of the estimated cost and the villagers are required to contribute their share which is usually given in the form of labour There is, however, no restriction now and any well may be used by the Adivasis or Harijans.

Medical Facilities

For bringing medical facilities within the easy reach to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the Welfare Department maintains *Ayurvedic* centres at Rehal in Nauhatta police-station and Sarodag in Adhaura police-station. The estimated cost is Rs 6,000 at each of these centres. Every dispensary has one *Vaidya* and *Ayurvedic* as well as some patent medicines are kept in the dispensaries.

The table following shows the medical aid granted to the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes from 1960-61 to 1962-63:—

	1960-61.		1961-62.		1962-63.	
	Allotment.	Expenditure.	Allotment.	Expenditure.	Allotment.	Expenditure.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
(a) Scheduled Tribes	200	200	1,000	1,000	1,000	850
(b) Scheduled Castes	2,250	2,250	3,000	3,000	3,000	2,000
Total ..	2,450	2,450	4,000	4,000	4,000	3,000

LEGAL AID.

In Shahabad district during 1960-61, 1961-62 and 1962-63 the sums of Rs. 2,700, Rs. 3,800 and Rs. 2,007 respectively were granted to the persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Welfare Department generally provides legal aid to the indigent members of the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes who may be involved in cases relating to ejectment from land, house, money suits, etc.

COMMUNICATION FACILITIES

The Welfare Department has also constructed a number of roads for the benefit of the Harijans and Adivasis. The statement following gives the details of the roads constructed and under construction:—

Years	Name of road.	Length in mile.	Estimated cost in Rupees.	Remarks.
1957-58	Adhaura Sarvodaya Road	12	8,000	Project Executive Officer, Adhaura.
1959-60 ..	Marpaghat Road .	½	3,200	Ditto.
1959-60 ..	Rehal to Harmuta .	1	920	Project Executive Officer, Nauhatta.
1959-60 ..	Rehal to Chunhatta ..	2	1,840	Ditto.
1959-60 ..	Rehal to Kuba via Nauhatta	2	1,840	Ditto.
1960-61 ..	Deori-Garki Road (Adhaura)	3	5,000	Project Executive Officer, Adhaura.
1960-61 ..	Chainpurghat Road (Adhaura).	½	5,000	Ditto.
1960-61 ..	Dahar Road (Adhaura) (Incomplete).	2	4,500	Ditto.
1960-61 ..	Marpa-Chainpur Road (Incomplete)	7	5,000	Ditto.
1960-61 ..	Adhaura-Chainpur Road (Incomplete),	4	3,050	Ditto
1960-61 ..	Adhaura-Khoudar Road (Incomplete)	6	5,000	Ditto.
1960-61 .	Chandrara-Amhara Road	1	1,000	Project Executive Officer, Sasaram.
1960-61 .	Amhara-Jhalia Road	4½	5,000	Ditto.
1960-61 ..	Teri-Panari Road	9	10,000	Ditto.
1960-61 ..	Sarodag-Lohara Road .	9	9,000	Ditto.
1960-61 .	Barajhia Dah-Markauni Road	4½	3,500	Ditto.
1960-61 ..	Markauni-Karkatgarh Road	4½	2,500	Ditto.

A limited appraisal has been made as to the impact of the welfare measures and the Community Development Project on the tribals in Rohtas and Adhaura Blocks The investigation did not show that there has been any appreciable amelioration in the condition of the tribals and it is doubtful if all the money that has been spent has been well utilised. This appraisal appears in the text on "People".

VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS.

The Voluntary Social Service Organisations of local importance are the *Bharat Sewak Samaj*, Bharat Scouts and Guides, *Bhoodan* Movement, *Harijan Sewak Sangh*, *Dalit Varga Sangh*, *Shatrunjay Sangeet Vidyalaya*, *Arya Samaj*, Theosophical Society, etc

Bharat Sewak Samaj

The *Bharat Sewak Samaj* is an all-India institution A branch of the organisation was established in 1956 at Arrah There are several committees and sub-committees consisting of some officials and non-officials. The branch has an office at Arrah under a Chairman and a Working Committee consisting of eleven members including the Chairman.

The programme of the *Samaj* is to extend its work to all the blocks *anchals*, *thanas*, and even in villages as far as possible There are several wings, namely –

(1) Information Centre, (2) Anti-Corruption Centre, (3) Mahila Section and (4) Youth and Camp Section

They also undertake village uplift work consisting of sanitation and public works. Public works schemes cover construction and maintenance of village paths, wells, pynes, etc, with the voluntary labour of its members In the urban areas the *Samaj* has taken up sanitation, public health, cultural education, children welfare, youth welfare and co-operative works. The *Samaj* has been trying to expose corruption in the services as well.

Bharat Scouts and Guides.

This is an all-India organisation with the State headquarters at Patna There is a branch in Arrah since 1923. At that time there were several similar institutions in the district The main institution was then known as the Boys' Scout. In 1950 all the similar institutions were amalgamated and the amalgamated institution came to be known as the Bharat Scouts and Guides. This branch trains its members, both boys and girls in voluntary service. Regular training is given to the boys and girls and they have done a lot of good work on occasions like *melas*, large processions, etc.

Bhoodan Movement.

The *Bhoodan* Movement was started in 1951 by Acharya Vinoba Bhave. It was started in this district on the 14th September, 1952 when Shri Bhave came to Durgawati. Its main aim is to establish a society with no exploitation and to achieve this goal the *Bhoodan* Movement has been adopted as the first step The idea is to get land from the people who have it and to give it to the landless ones.

The *Zila Bhoodan* Office was set up in the district at Dehri-on-Sone in May, 1953, and during the same year its work was taken up in all the subdivisions and thanas of the district. In the beginning of 1956, the main office was shifted from Dehri-on Sone to Jamuhar, P. O. Karwandiha in Sasaram subdivision. Prior to this, in 1954, the *Bihar Bhoodan Act* was passed for legalisation, management. distribution, etc, of the lands received in gift According to this, the Bihar *Bhoodan Yajna Samiti* was replaced by Bihar *Bhoodan Yajna* Committee on the 31st December, 1956, and the powers of the *Samiti* were transferred to the Committee After the *Zila Samiti* was dissolved in the district, the *Zila Bhoodan Yajna* office was established The main district office from Jamuhar was shifted to Sasaram where it remained till 15th December, 1958 It was then shifted to Arrah town

Till September, 1963, from 1,687 villages, through 4,608 *Danpatras* or gifted deeds, 1,96,506 acres of land have been obtained in the district. In 805 villages, 12,147 acres of land have been distributed among 3,669 landless tenants Out of this 3,669, the number of Harijans and aboriginals who received the lands, till September, 1963, are 981 and 28 respectively and the rest belong to the other castes. Some undistributed lands are still in the possession of the said Committee which would be given to the *Gram Panchayats* through the *Zila Panchayat Parishad.* Among these undistributed lands, there are some forests, hills, etc., not fit for cultivation There are also lands and forests under dispute that have been donated

For land reclamation, purchase of bullocks ploughs, implements, seeds, etc., 75 per cent subsidy and 25 per cent loans are given to the *Bhoodan* tenants The subsidy and loans are given through the Block Development Officers. The amount given in subsidy and loan to 3,621 *Bhoodan* tenants in 693 villages comes to Rs 11,765 till September, 1963

There has been no appraisal of the impact of the *Bhoodan* movement on the landless people or on the people with land. The impact, on the face of it appears to be small although a beginning has been made At Adhaura village under Adhaura police-station an investigator in doing other investigations was confronted by *Adivasis* who complained that the *Bhoodan* land gifted to them by the *Bhoodan* Committee are not being possessed by them and the

Forest Department and other people were claiming that the land was theirs. It was also complained that in the Survey and Settlement Operations their names have not been recorded.

Harijan Sewak Sangh.

A branch of the all-India *Harijan Sewak Sangh* was organised at Arrah in 1930 There is a District Committee consisting of nine members out of which two are Harijans and the rest belong to the other castes. The *Harijan Sewak Sangh* has got its own building known as *Harijan Ashram* which was constructed in 1939 In 1940 a *Prarthana Bhawan* was constructed and is attached with the *Harijan Ashram*. The *Sangh* celebrated its Silver Jubilee in 1962. The aim is to serve the cause of the Harijans, to ameliorate their condition and to make them useful citizens.

Dalit Varga Sangh.

A branch of the all-India *Dalit Varga Sangh* is also functioning in the district since 1957 At first the office was located at Piro. It was shifted to the present site in Arrah town in 1962 There is a District Committee consisting of 15 members with seven Harijan members The aims are almost the same as the *Harijan Sewak Sangh*. The *Sangh* has started co-operative societies in the district at Arrah, Piro, Koelwar, etc

Shatrunjay Sangeet Vidyalaya

An institution known as Shri Marut Nandan Shahabad Sangeet Sangh was established at Arrah in 1914, by Shri Ram Kumar Jain of Arrah town Shri Ram Kumar Jain was a great lover of music and art In 1929 the late Shri Shatrunjay Prasad Singh popularly known as Shri Lallanjee of village Jamira took charge of this institution. Lallanjee was born with the silver spoon in his mouth and freely spent his own money for the cause of music. He was a great *Pakhawaj*, *mridanga* and *tabla* player and an able exponent of *kathak* dance. Oblivious of social stigma or ridicule, the late Lallanjee dedicated himself to music as a whole-time voluntary artist His genius soon cut new ways in musical expression. He trained one generation of musicians of Bihar and from outside His death, in 1961, was a great loss to the institution and to the world of music

As a mark of respect to late Shri Lallanjee the name of the institution was changed from *Marut Nandan Sangeet Vidyalaya* to *Shri Shatrunjay Sangeet Vidyalaya.* In the beginning the institution was located at Jamira House, Arrah. It was later shifted to its present site at *mohalla* Mahadeva in 1956 It is affiliated to *Prayag Sangeet Samiti*, Allahabad and registered with the Sangeet Natak Academy, New Delhi

In 1963, there were 60 students and seven paid teachers including one Principal and three honorary teachers. There is a Managing Committee consisting of 16 members. It receives recurring grants

from the State Government and during 1961-62 and 1962-63, it received Rs. 6,000 and Rs 8,000 respectively. It imparts education in dance and music (both vocal and instrumental). Every year it holds examination and courses of study and certificates are given by the *Prayag Sangeet Samiti*, Allahabad This institution does not run for profit and the fees collected do not cover all the expenses

Arya Samaj.

The *Arya Samaj* of Arrah was organised 76 years ago and till 1926 its office was held in a rented house Later it was shifted to its present site at Abarpul. Now it has its own building on the western bank of the famous Dean's tank. The *Arya Samaj Bhawan* at Arrah is known as *Sradhanand Bhawan* after the name of the founder of *Arya Samaj* This institution has also the State headquarters of the *Arya Samaj* and is known as *Bihar Rajya Arya Pratinidhi Sabha.* There are 38 units of *Arya Samaj* institutions scattered all over the district and the important units are at Bhabua, Buxar, Sasaram, Piro, Jagdishpur, Mohania, Ramgarh, Agiaon, Lasarhi, Koelwar, Dehri on-Sone, etc

Attached to the *Sradhanand Bhawan* there is a public library known as *Shrimati Suggadevi Vedic Pustakalaya* established with the donations of Shrimati Suggadevi of Arrah town Shrimati Suggadevi was a pioneer of female education in Arrah. There is a reading room in this library.

In the *Sradhanand Bhawan* there are one *Vyayamshala* and one *Yajnashala* which are open for the public. About 20 young men attend the *Vyayamshala* every day.

There are Charitable Homoeopathic Dispensaries run by the *Arya Samaj* at Arrah and Bihea.

The annual anniversary is held every year between the months of March to May for four days. A series of conferences are held in connection with the anniversary.

The *Arya Samaj* runs a Middle School which has 300 students and nine teachers. There was one Girls' School also run by the *Arya Samaj* established in 1926 in one of the donated buildings at Abarpul (Arrah town) This is now defunct.

The activities of the *Arya Samaj* at Arrah are manifold. A regular *Nari Raksha* (rescue of women and children) scheme is working out with great success throughout the district and about 20 volunteers are on deputation for this work They are posted mainly on the railway platforms, main streets and lanes in town and on the outskirt areas within the district. On special festive occasions, fairs, sports, public gatherings, etc., there is special arrangement for the rescue of women and children.

The *Arya Samaj* volunteers regularly visit the hospitals and other places for the unclaimed dead bodies of Hindus and the cremation is done by the *Arya Samaj* workers according to vedic rites. For such cremations the Government pays Rs. 16 per dead body, the Municipality Rs. 4.

Theosophical Society.

The Arrah Lodge of the Theosophical Society was established in 1882 There is a branch of it at Buxar also The meetings are held regularly in the Lodge premises on every Sunday and different topics are discussed but more emphasis is given on the fundamental unity of all religions and services to mankind. It has got a library. Bulletins are issued from Arrah Lodge after every two months. The Theosophical Society is much interested in social services without any distinction of caste or creed The meetings and conferences are not confined to the members only

Broadly it may be observed that the Voluntary Social Service Organisations like *Bharat Sevak Sangh, Harijan Sevak Sangh* or *Dalit Varga Sangh* have not been able to do much and probably a re-thinking as to the handicaps is required It appears that most of them depend on the State Government or the Central Government for their funds and there is an acute want of zealous or selfless workers like those who belong to the Servants of India Society or the Ramkrishna Mission These organisations have taken a shape after the Government organisations Some of these organisations are not popular even in the towns where they exist and very little is known to the outsiders as to their activities Bhoodan Movement has also not done much as it is now being found that many of the donated lands do not actually belong to the donors. Some of the lands donated to the landless are being claimed by others or have been found to be barren, hillside or jungles belonging to the Forest Department In contrast to this, however, there are some other organisations or some of the branches of the organisations mentioned before that have done excellent services

NEWSPAPERS.

No daily newspapers are published in the district. The papers now published are noted below —

Uttar Bihar is a weekly periodical giving news and articles on various subjects It has a small circulation.

Toofan is also a weekly periodical for news and articles with a small circulation. It is published from Dehri-on-Sone.

Gaonghar is a fortnightly magazine which publishes short stories, etc. The circulation is small

Bhojpuri is a monthly magazine in Bhojpuri dialect of Hindi language. It is published at Arrah and is said to have a good circulation

The English daily newspapers in common circulation published outside the district but within the State are the *Indian Nation* and the *Searchlight* of Patna. The other newspapers in common circulation published outside the State are the *Statesman, Amrita Bazar Patrika*, the *Times of India, National Herald, Leader*, etc Among English weeklies and periodicals that have circulation in the district are *Blitz, Illustrated Weekly of India, Behar Herald*, etc The *Modern Review, Link, Careers* and *Courses, Competition Master*, etc., also have some circulation

Among the Hindi daily newspapers *Aryavarta, Pradeep, Vishwamitra Navabharat* and *Times* have a good circulation. The first two are published from Patna Among the Hindi weeklies *Dharmyuga, Saptahik Hindusthan*, etc , have some circulation The two Bengali daily newspapers *Ananda Bazar* and *Yugantar* of Calcutta have a small circulation Among the Urdu dailies *Sathi* and *Sada-e-Am* published from Patna are popular

Correct figures of circulation of any of the papers are not available.

GENERAL ELECTION

After Independence in 1947, the First General Election, on the basis of adult franchise, was held in 1952. In pre-independence days there had been elections to the legislatures both at the Provincial and Imperial Government levels but the franchise for the Local Bodies, Provincial Assembly or Council or the Central Legislatures was based on qualifications of property, incidence of payment of revenue, rent or taxes, educational qualifications, communal representations, etc All this accounted for a low percentage of voters. Adult franchise from 1952 General Election provides equal opportunities for men and women of all classes castes and creeds to exercise their right of vote It was a great experiment

GENERAL ELECTION OF 1952

Legislative Assembly

During the General Election of 1952 there were 19 constituencies for *Vidhan Sabha* or Legislative Assembly out of which three (Bhabua-*cum*-Mohania, Sasaram-*cum* Rohtas and Tarari-*cum*-Piro) were plural (double) and the other sixteen were single constituencies The political parties that participated in the election for the 22 seats were the Congress, Forward Bloc (Marxist), Jan Sangh, Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party, Praja Socialist, Ram Rajya Parishad, Socialist and United Kisan Sabha There were 80 candidates without any party affiliation and all the 22 seats had some independent candidates. None of the independent candidates were elected.

The number of candidates run by the different parties and the number of seats won by the party nominees are shown below*:—

Name of different parties.	No. of candidates	No. of seats won by party nominees
Congress	21	17
Socialist	21	4
Ram Rajya Parishad	15	1
Praja Socialist	13	Nil
Forward Bloc (Marxist)	7	Nil
Jan Sangh	6	Nil
Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party	1	Nil
United Kisan Sabha	1	Nil
GRAND TOTAL	85	22

The total number of voters in 1952 Assembly elections for the district of Shahabad was 12,52,369 (7,08,114 males and 5,44,255 females) The total number of votes cast was 6,47,241 The analysis of the votes gained by the different parties and independent candidates is given below*:—

Party and Independent candidates.	Votes gained.
Congress	2,20,090
Independent	1,97 460
Socialist	1,28,616
Ram Rajya Parishad	39,272
Praja Socialist	31,968
Forward Bloc (Marxist)	11,726
Jan Sangh	10,947
Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party	5,617
United Kisan Sabha	1,545
GRAND TOTAL	6,47,241

Parliamentary Election.

During the General Election in 1952 there were two Parliamentary Constituencies, i e., Shahabad South and Shahabad North-West. Besides, one constituency, i.e., Patna-*cum*-Shahabad, was in

* *Report on the First General Election under the Constitution of India in* Bihar, 1951 52, pages 44—46.

common with some areas of the Patna district. Shahabad South was a plural constituency and Shahabad North-West a single one. The parties which contested the Parliamentary seats were the Congress, Forward Bloc (Marxist), Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party, Ram Rajya Parishad and the Socialist. Besides, nine Independent candidates without any party affiliation had also contested the three Parliamentary seats. The two seats, i e, Shahabad South and Patna-*cum*-Shahabad, were won by the Congress candidates and one seat, i.e., Shahabad North-West, was captured by an Independent candidate

The total number of votes cast was 8,72,152. The analysis of the votes cast given below shows the number of the votes that each of the party nominees had received:—

Party and Independent candidates.	Number of votes gained.
Congress	3,36,713
Independent	2,39,377
Socialist	1,82,643
Ram Rajya Parishad . ..	80,161
Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party .	24,552
Forward Bloc (Marxist)	8,706
GRAND TOTAL ..	8,72,152

The results of the 1952 elections show some trends As mentioned earlier the total number of votes in 1952 for Assembly constituencies was 12,52,369 (7,08 114 males and 5,44,255 females) or 46.5 per cent (52 1 per cent males and 40 9 per cent females) out of which 6,47,241 or about 51.68 per cent votes were cast The Congress alone got 2,20,090 or about 34 per cent of the total votes cast and the rest 4,27,151 or 66 per cent of the votes were divided among the other party and Independent candidates.

It is evident from the above facts that the Congress won 17 of the 22 seats but it does not mean that the Congress had a very good hold in the district. In almost all the constituencies the votes were divided which was one of the main reasons for the victory of the Congress candidates.

In plural constituency Tarari-*cum*-Piro, the Congress had set their only one candidate who was defeated by a Socialist candidate. The Socialist candidate won by a narrow margin (16,340 votes as against 16,315 votes). In another constituency, Barhara, the Congress candidate who got 3,438 votes was defeated by a candidate of the Ram Rajya Parishad who got 3,938 votes. The Independent candidates together had gained 7,332 votes in Barhara constituency. This

also shows that had the votes not been divided, the victory of the candidate would have been difficult. In Arrah Mofussil constituency the Congress candidate came out successful with 5,538 votes. His nearest rival was an Independent candidate who got 2,741 votes only and together, all the candidates, excluding the Congress candidate, got 10,076 votes Here also the division of votes was mainly responsible for the success of the party candidate

As mentioned earlier in almost all the constituencies the division of votes was greatly responsible for the victory of a party candidate.

One of the main reasons of the victory of the Congress candidates was the fact that the Congress party was popular and it was commonly held that the independence of the country came sooner because of the Congress. The ideologies of the Socialist and Praja Socialist parties were rather subtle and it became difficult for the common mass to find the differences between the two The Congress party had also a larger organisation with roots in the villages and the constituencies were well nursed by them The Congress party had formed the Cabinet and that was another advantage.

From a report of the District Election Office it appears that during 1952 elections, the general mass was less educated in election matters and also less conscious of the value of their franchise The report further mentions that a number of illiterate voters held the boxes of the Congress party in great reverence and thought the boxes represented the late Mahatma Gandhi. The results also showed that the Independent candidate without any party affiliation had a great disadvantage.

GENFRAL ELECTION OF 1957.

The Second General Election was held on the basis of the electoral rolls made in 1952 subject to the modifications made in the course of the five years. The polling was staggered over a period of 16 days from the 25th February to the 12th March 1957. This Election in comparison with the First Election of 1952 was better planned and more systematically organised. Seats were reserved for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on the basis of their population as determined by the Census Commissioner.

Legislative Assembly.

During the General Election in 1957 the number of the constituencies was nineteen, namely, Arrah, Arrah Mofussil, Shahpur, Brahampur, Dumraon, Nawanagar, Buxar, Ramgarh, Mohania, Bhabua, Sasaram, Dehri, Nokha, Bikramganj, Dawath, Piro, Sahar, Sandesh and Dinara. Bhabua, Sasaram and Piro were double member and the rest were single member constituencies. The names of Bhabua-*cum*-Mohania, Sasaram-*cum*-Rohtas and Tarari-*cum*-Piro were changed Bhabua and Mohania became separate constituencies

in 1957. The Sasaram-*cum*-Rohtas constituency became Sasaram constituency only and that of Tarari-*cum*-Piro was known as Piro constituency only. Some new constituencies, namely, Arrah, Brahampur, Nawanagar, Dawath and Ramgarh came into existence during the elections in 1957 There were altogether 22 seats in 1957. The political parties that contested for the 21 seats were the Congress, Praja Socialist, Janta, Socialist and Communist Party of India. There were 30 Independent candidates who contested the election in the 13 constituencies unsuccessfully.

The number of candidates run by the different parties and the number of seats won by party nominees are given below*.—

Name of different parties	Number of candidates.	Number of seats won by the party nominees.
Congress	21	15
Praja Socialist	22	7
Janta	12	Nil
Socialist	11	Nil
Communist Party of India .	3	Nil
GRAND TOTAL ..	69	22

During the elections in 1957 there were 13,34,277 votes (7,24,632 males and 6,09,645 females). The total number of votes cast was 7,66,825 and the total number of votes rejected was five (postal ballot papers). The analysis of the votes gained by the different parties and Independent candidates is as follows:—

Name of different parties.	Votes gained.
Congress	3,14,366
Praja Socialist	2,31,870
Independent	1,03,211
Socialist	46,913
Janta	38,717
Communist Party of India	31,743
GRAND TOTAL ..	7,66,820

Parliamentary Election.

In the General Election of 1957 there were three Parliamentary constituencies, i.e., Shahabad, Buxar and Sasaram. Out of the three constituencies, two were single (Shahabad and Buxar) and

* *Report on the Second General Election in Bihar*, 1956-57, pages 170—178.

one plural (Sasaram). The contesting parties for the Parliamentary seats were the Congress, Praja Socialist and Janta. Besides, two Independent candidates without any party affiliation had contested the two seats (Buxar and Sasaram). The plural seats (Sasaram) and the single seat (Shahabad) were won by the Congress candidates and one of the Congress candidates from Sasaram constituency was elected uncontested. The single constituency of Buxar was won by an Independent candidate who defeated his two rival candidates belong ing to the Praja Socialist and the Congress parties.

The total number of votes cast was 6,98,690. The analysis of the votes cast given below shows the number of votes of the candidates:—

Name of different parties.	Votes gained.
Congress	3,44,099
Praja Socialist	2,21,446
Janta	14,587
Independent	1,18,458
GRAND TOTAL ..	6,98,690

The election results of 1957 show some trends. As mentioned earlier there were altogether 21 constituencies out of which 14 were captured by the Congress and seven by the Praja Socialist Party candidates Altogether 7,66,820 votes were gained by all the parties and Independent candidates out of which the Congress alone bagged 3,14,366 votes The other party and Independent candidates had together polled 4,52,454 votes. This clearly shows that had the votes not been divided, it would have been difficult for all the Congress candidates to come out successful. Further, if all the party and Independent candidates had been united then also the victory for the Congress candidates would have been difficult.

So far the Parliamentary Elections are concerned it has already been mentioned earlier that there were altogether three constituencies (Shahabad, Buxar and Sasaram) out of which Sasaram was a plural constituency. The Congress had captured the three seats by bagging 3,44,009 votes and one Independent candidate from Sasaram constituency had come out successful. All the other party and Independent candidates had together polled 3,54,591 votes. Elections had by now become very popular and contests were keener. The need of a party backing was increasingly felt. The Congress had clearly a better run and more organised machine to fight the elections

GENERAL ELECTION OF 1962.

In comparison with the last two General Elections, the Third General Election of 1962 was better planned and more systematic.

It also took much less time in completing the poll and in announcing the results. With the experience of the First and Second General Elections and of the bye-elections in the intervening periods a significant change in the method of casting votes was adopted this time. Previously a voter was required to put the ballot paper in the ballot box of the candidate of his choice and there were as many separate boxes (one for each contesting candidate) as many contesting candidates. In the Third General Election of 1962, there was only one common ballot box for all the contesting candidates of a constituency and the elector was to give the seal against the symbol and in the space in whose favour he wanted to exercise his franchise. The ballot papers contained the symbols of all the contesting candidates of a particular constituency and a space was provided against the symbol of each of the candidates for putting the seal.

The other important change was brought in respect of the plural member constituencies. All the plural constituencies were converted into single constituencies Generally a plural constituency was divided into two single member constituencies and one such constituency was made reserve for Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes.

Further, the Third General Election was held on the basis of "the revision of the electoral rolls in this State between the period 1957–62.. . The electoral rolls of all the Assembly constituencies were revised during the intervening period of the Second and Third General Elections"*.

"It was planned to complete the polling within a period of one week, i.e., from the 19th to the 25th February 1962, fixing four days as the actual days of poll in the State but on account of *Maghi Purnima* falling on the 19th February, the poll was started on the 18th February. Accordingly, 18th February, 21st February, 23rd February and 25th February were decided to be fixed as the days of actual poll. The poll was completed in the different constituencies of the State only in four days..... .. ... "**

Legislative Assembly

During the General Election of 1962, there were 22 constituencies, namely, Arrah, Arrah Mofussil, Bhabua, Bikramganj, Brahampur, Buxar, Chainpur† (S. C.), Chenari (S. C.), Dawath, Dehri, Dinara, Dumraon, Jagdishpur (S. C.), Mohania Nawanagar, Nokha, Piro, Ramgarh, Sahar, Sandesh, Sasaram and Shahpur. The number of the constituencies had increased to 22 in 1962, as against 19 in 1957. This time three new constituencies, i.e., Chainpur, Chenari and Jagdishpur, were created due to bifurcation of double member

* *Report on the Third General Election in Bihar*, 1962, page 28.

** *Ibid*, page 65.

† Scheduled Castes.

constituencies and made reserve for Scheduled Castes candidates. The political parties that participated in the elections for the 22 seats were, the Congress, Communist, Jan Sangh, Jharkhand, Praja Socialist, Ram Rajya Parishad, Socialist and the Swatantra There were altogether 20 Independent candidates who contested the 12 constituencies out of which only one Independent candidate in Brahampur constituency came out successful

The number of candidates run by the different parties and the number of seats won by the party nominees are given below*:—

Name of different parties	Number of the candidates	Number of the seats won by party nominees
Congress	22	17
Independent	20	1
Communist	8	1
Jan Sangh	6	Nil
Jharkhand	5	Nil.
Praja Socialist	21	3
Ram Rajya Parishad	9	..
Socialist	15	Nil
Swatantra	19	Nil

According to 1961 census, the total population of the district was 32,18,017 souls (males 16,16,732 and females 16,01,285) out of which the total number of electors was 15,51,159 (males 8,35,291 and females 7,15,868) or 48.20 per cent (males 51.66 per cent and females 44.70 per cent)** The total number of valid votes was 8,22,721 and the number of votes rejected was 38,377. The analysis of the votes gained by the different parties and Independent candidates is given below† —

Name of different parties	Votes gained.
Congress	3,49,484
Communist	36,169
Jan Sangh	8,950
Jharkhand	4,913
Praja Socialist	1,64,017
Ram Rajya Parishad	10,161
Socialist	61,556
Swatantra	1,41,781
Independent	45,690
GRAND TOTAL	8,22,721

* *Report on the Third General Election in Bihar*, 1962, pages 252—258.

** *Ibid*, page 168

† *Ibid*, pages 252—255

Parliamentary Election.

In 1962 General Election there were four Parliamentary constituencies as against three in 1957. The constituencies were Shahabad, Buxar, Bikramganj and Sasaram and all were plural. Sasaram constituency was reserved for a Scheduled Caste candidate The contesting parties for the Parliamentary seats were the Congress, Praja Socialist, Swatantra, Socialist, Communist and the Jan Sangh. Besides, there were altogether three Independent candidates who contested the election unsuccessfully in two constituencies, namely, Buxar and Bikramganj All the four seats were won by Congress candidates

The total number of electors was 17,09,083* out of which 9,24,730 valid votes were polled and 31,602 votes were rejected The analysis of the votes cast is given below —

Name of different parties	Votes gained.
Congress	4,66,990
Communist .	9,403
Jan Sangh	11,738
Praja Socialist	1,38,268
Socialist	64,085
Swatantra .	1,32,111
Independent . .	1,02,081
GRAND TOTAL ..	9,24,676

The results of 1962 General Election show some trends. Out of the total valid votes (8,22,721) polled, the Congress party candidates got 3,49,484 votes and won 17 seats in the Legislative Assembly. The total number of Assembly seats was 22 in 1957 as well as in 1962 In the General Election of 1957 the Congress had captured only 14 seats and the other seven seats had gone to the Praja Socialist candidates. In comparison the Congress had made a better headway in 1962 and only three seats could go to the Praja Socialist candidates

In the General Election of 1962 one Communist and one Independent candidates were also elected to the Assembly. The Communist candidate's success was a particular feature The success of the solitary Independent candidate really underlines the necessity of a party behind the candidates.

The Congress had won the majority of the seats by securing 3,49,484 votes but the total votes gained by the other party and Independent candidates come to 4,73,237. This clearly shows that the opposition being divided the votes were split and that helped the Congress candidates.

* *Report on the Third General Election in Bihar*, 1962, page 194.

In Parliamentary elections altogether 9,24,676 votes were polled out of which the Congress party got 4,66,990 votes. The other party and Independent candidates had together polled 4,57,686 votes. All the seats were secured by the Congress candidates. Here also the division of votes was one of the chief factors of victory for the Congress party candidates

Charitable Endowments.

The Bihar Hindu Religious Trusts Act, 1950 (Bihar Act of 1951), came into force from the 15th August, 1951, in the State of Bihar This Act provides better administration, protection and preservation of properties of Hindu religious trusts. Under section 5(1) the Bihar State Board of Religious Trusts was constituted in August, 1951. The Board consists of 17 members headed by a President who is nominated and appointed by the State Government. The term of the office of members as provided in the Act under sections 7(3) and 8(5) is five years The office of the Board is at Patna The source of finance of the Board is the trust fund For the purpose of defraying the expenses incurred or to be incurred in the administration of this Act, under section 70(1) the trustee of every religious trust is required to pay to the Board five per cent of its net income. Here net income means the total income realised by the trustee from all sources after deducting any amount payable as revenue, rent, taxes, local or other cesses and cost of management at twelve and a half per cent Some of the main functions of the Board which are mentioned in detail in section 28(2) of the Act are (*i*) to prepare and maintain a complete record containing full information relating to the origin, nature, extent, income, objects and beneficiaries of the different classes of religious trusts, (*ii*) to give direction for proper administration of the religious trusts, (*iii*) to cause inspection to be made of the property and the office of any religious trust including the accounts, and (*iv*) to remove a trustee from his office if such trustee is convicted of any such offence as implies moral turpitude or who refuses to or wilfully disobeys the directions and orders of the Board. For proper implementation of the provisions of the Act there are four Inspectors, one Auditor, one Superintendent and one Assistant Superintendent all working under the President of the Board. At present, the Board functions under the control of Law Department, Government of Bihar

All public trusts and endowments made by the Hindus in the district of Shahabad are governed by this Board. Till October, 1963, there were altogether 436 Hindu religious trusts. Some of the important Hindu religious trusts and charitable endowments registered at the Board's office are Hanumanjee Trust, Jagdishpur, Sharda Braj Raj Shree Biharijee Trust, Jagdishpur, Shri Radha Krishna Mandir Trust, Jagdishpur, Koraich Mahabirsthan, Sasaram,

Ram Rekhaghat Math, Buxar, Gupteshwar Dham Trust (P. O. Manrezpur, P.-S Chenari), Chhoti Sangat, Dumraon, Laheri Math, Laheri (P. O. Pupsar, P-S Kargahar), Basaon Kala Math, Basaon (P. O. Sikraul, P.-S. Itarhi), Kawalchhapari Math, Kawalchhapara (P. O Sinha, P.-S Barhara), Shiva Mandir Trust, Brahampur, Radha Krishna Mandir, Bhabua, Chhoti Dumraon Trust, Bateshwar Nath Trust, Sasaram, Darigaon Temple Trust, Darigaon, Shri Jain Bala Vishram Trust, Arrah, D. K Jain Endowment Trust, Arrah, Bari Mathia Trust, Arrah, etc

The details of some of the trusts are given below –

Hanumanjee Trust, Jagdishpur.

This is a religious trust and was established in 1931 by one Shri Nandkumar Upadhyaya of Jagdishpur. There is a temple of Hanumanjee and for the upkeep of the temple there are 6½ acres of cultivable land and the annual income of the temple is about Rs 1,000 There is a Trust Committee constituted under section 32 of the Bihar Hindu Religious Trusts Act, 1950. The Committee consists of seven members out of which there are one President, one Secretary and five members

Sharda Braj Raj Shree Biharijee Trust, Jagdishpur

This is also a religious trust which was established in 1940 by Shrimati Dulhin Braj Raj Kunwar w/o late Rai Bahadur Sri Sharda Prasad Singh of Jagdishpur. There is a temple of Radha Krishna The landed property of the trust consists of 19 *bighas* of cultivated land The annual income of the trust is Rs 4,500 This trust is also looked after by a Committee of seven members out of which there are one President, one Secretary and five members The Committee has been formed under the terms laid down in the deed of the trust executed in 1954 by the founder

Sri Radha Krishna Mandir Trust, Jagdishpur

A religious trust established in 1921 by Mosamat Jechhi Kunwar, wife of the late Pandit Agam Tiwary of Jagdishpur For the upkeep of the temple and for the expenditure during festivals like Ramnavmi, Krishnasthmi, etc., 32 *bighas* of cultivable lands have been donated to the trust by Shrimati Jechha Kunwar The annual income of the trust is Rs 4,000 A trust committee consisting of a chief trustee and four other members under section 32 of the Bihar Hindu Religious Trusts Act, 1950 has been constituted

Koraich Mahabirsthan Sasaram

This is one of the oldest temples in the district situated at Sasaram In this temple there is a statue of Hanumanjee known as Koraich Mahabir The annual income of the temple is about Rs. 6,000 from house rents and offerings There is a Management Committee to look after the affairs of the temple. The Committee consists of a President, a Secretary and four members.

Ram Rekhaghat Math, Buxar.

This trust was founded by Baba Raghunath Das. The date of its establishment was not available at the office of the Bihar Hindu Religious Trust Board. The object of this Trust is the worship of the images of Ram, Lakshmana and Janki in the temple and the service of the wandering *sadhus* (sojourners). It is managed by a *Mahanth*. There are 59 *bighas* cultivable land and the annual income and expenditure of the trust is Rs 6,000

Gupteshwar Dham (P O Mamrezpur, P-S Chenari, district Shahabad)

This trust was established by Swami Bachcha Giri and the date of its establishment is not known. Its objects are *puja, sadhu seva, desh seva*, etc. This is also a purely religious trust and its annual income from offerings is Rs 1,000 The affairs are managed by a *Mahanth.*

Chhoti Sangat, Dumraon

This trust was established by one Baba Mangal Dasjee This is also one of the oldest *Sangats* in the district and it is said that this *Sangat* was established about 300 years back There is a *Mahanth* to look after the affairs of the *Sangat* and the annual income from offerings and landed property (62 *bighas* of cultivable land) is Rs. 4,500 Its objects are religious discourses, *puja, sankirtan, sadhu seva*, etc This is also managed by a *Mahanth.*

Laheri Math, Laheri (P. O Papsar, P-S Kargahar, district Shahabad)

This trust was founded by Baba Bawanath Giri but the date of its foundation is not available The main objects of the trust are *puja, sadhu seva*, etc It is under the charge of a *Mahanth* and it has got annual income of Rs 6,000 from 85 *bighas* of cultivable land and offerings

Basaon Kala Math, Basaon (P. O. Sikraul, P-S. Itarhi, district Shahabad)

It was founded by one Sri Bhrigunath Rai of Basaon in 1911 for worship and food for the students and poor It has got 500 *bighas* of land and a zamindari of an average income of Rs. 2,000 which has now vested in the State The annual income of this trust is more than Rs 10 000 This trust also runs a Sanskrit *Pathshala*, known as Shri Niwas Mukund Ramanuj Sanskrit Vidyalaya This trust is also managed by a *Mahanth*

Kawalchhapara Math, Kawalchhapara (P O. Sinha, P.-S. Barhara, district Shahabad).

This *Math* was donated by Baba Thikar Nathjee and its date of foundation is not known The aims and objects of the trust are, (*i*) propagation of the different branches of the *Sanatan* religion as

also of Sanskrit language, (ii) *sadhu seva* and (iii) the upkeep of the temple. It appears from form number I under Bihar Hindu Religious Trust Rules, 1952 (sections 7 and 13) of the year 1961-62 that the total land donated in trust was 349 *bighas* but the river Ganga had been eroding the land since 1952 and till 1961-62 it had eroded 320 *bighas;* hence, the balance is only 29 *bighas*. The annual income and expenditure of the temple is Rs 2,100. This is also managed by a *Mahanth*.

WAQF.

The Bihar Waqf Act, 1947 (Act VIII of 1948), was passed to have a better administration of *waqfs* in the State of Bihar. According to the provisions of this Act, two separate Boards, namely, *Bihar Subai Sunni Majlis-e-Awqaf* and *Bihar Subai Shia Majlis-e-Awqaf*, one for the Sunni and the other for the Shia sects of the Muslims of Bihar were constituted to discharge the functions assigned to the Boards by the Act The main duties of the Boards are to ensure that *waqfs* under their superintendence are properly maintained, controlled and administered and the income thereof is duly applied for the purposes for which such *waqfs* (trusts) were created or intended

Bihar Subai Sunni Majlis-e-Awqaf, Gulabbagh, Patna-4

The *Bihar Subai Sunni Majlis-e-Awqaf* with the State headquarters at Patna, was established on the 3rd March, 1948, with nine nominated members but now (November, 1963) it consists of eleven members including the *Sadar* (President) The general superintendence of the *Waqfs* vests in the *Majlis* which meets once in three months. The head of this office is a *Nazir-e-Awqaf* and under him there are a number of officials.

The office maintains the record of almost all the *waqfs* in the State. From the office records it appears that there are altogether 69 *waqfs* in the district of Shahabad

Of all the *waqfs* in the district of Shahabad, three are very important. They are the Madarsa Wahidia, Arrah, Shahi Mosque, Arrah, Farukhsiyari and Alamshahi

Madarsa Wahidia, Arrah

One Sri S. M Masood Ali Saheb of Dean's Tank, Arrah, dedicated his properties under a registered deed on the 8th June, 1921, for the upkeep of the mosque and *Madarsa Wahidia*. The immovable properties of the *waqf* are the holding nos. 240 and 243 in circle no 2, ward no. 4, *mohalla* Tari, Arrah and one mosque building. The movable properties of the same are the six shares in the Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway of Rs. 100.00 each and eleven shares in the Dehri-Rohtas Light Railway of Rs 10.00 each.

In 1933, subsequently Mr S. M Masood Ali (Shrimati Wahidu Nissa) dedicated the shares of both the railways for the upkeep of the *Madarsa Wahidia*. This *madarsa* is still running.

There is a management committee consisting of 11 members including one Secretary to look after the affairs of the *madarsa*.

Shahi Mosque, Arrah.

One Bibi Hayatunnissa dedicated some shops in this old mosque for its maintenance and executed a registered deed in 1819 and gave instructions for the allocation of the funds of the *katras* as follows —

(*i*) Imam to be paid six annas from the collection of the *katras*,

(*ii*) *Moazzin* (one who calls the *Azan*) and *Khadim* (servant) to be given three annas from the collection of the shops;

(*iii*) Sweeper, water supply and other mosque requirements will be met out of three annas of the total collection; and

(*iv*) Expense for *Ramzan* and repairs of the mosque to be spent out of four annas of the total collection

There is a managing committee consisting of 11 members including one Secretary to look after the affairs of the mosque.

The properties of this *waqf* are the mosque building, 31 shops adjoining the mosque (holding nos 346, 484, 485 and 487) in *Chowk Masjid*, Arrah and holding nos. 196 and 614 in ward 5, *mohalla* Tari, Arrah.

Farukhsiyari and Alamshahi, Sasaram

There is one *Khankah* at Sasaram which was established by one Shah Kabir *Darvesh* but there is no *waqf* deed or grant (*sanad*) to ascertain who was the *waqif* and what were the properties dedicated. But it appears from the perusal of the records that the *waqfs* were known as Farukhsiyari and Alamshahi. The properties of the *Khankah* consist principally of two imperial grants, one of the year 1717 from the Emperor Farukhsiyar and the other in 1762 from the Emperor Shah Alam Hence, some of the properties of the *Khankah* are called Farukhsiyari and the other Alamshahi.

Due to the mismanagement of the *waqf* by the *Mutawalli* (one who manages the *waqf*), a scheme of management for better control was framed in the year 1952, by the *Majlis*.

The objects of the *waqfs* are as follows:—

(*i*) maintenance of a *madarsa*;

(*ii*) aid to local Muslim Girls School and hospital;

(*iii*) burial of paupers;

(*iv*) miscellaneous expenses, and

(*v*) *waqf* cess, 1|10 of the net income on charities to the poor; 1|5 on the maintenance of a hostel for the *Hafiz* and their fooding.

The properties of the *waqf* are mosque and *madarsa* building, one boarding house, one kitchen and one *musafirkhana*.

Bihar Subai Shia Majlis-e-Awqaf, Afzalpur, Patna-6

The present *Bihar Subai Shia Majlis-e-Awqaf* was established on the 7th July 1948, under the Bihar Waqf Act, 1947 (Act VIII of 1948) All the members of the first Board were appointed by the State Government The term of the office of the first Board was for five years from the date of the publication of their names in the official Gazette and the late Dr Sir Syed Sultan Ahmad was appointed its first President besides ten other members At present there is one President and ten other members The functions of the Board have already been explained

The following are Shia *Waqfs* in the district of Shahabad —

Name of *Waqf*		Address
1 Bibi Bataso	.	Village Chandau, P O. Aurangabad Saraiya, district Shahabad
2. Shah Tasaduque Ali	..	Ditto
3 Sehat Bibi	..	Ditto.
4 Hakim Mohammad Tahir		Ditto.
5 Altaf Ali	.	Ditto
6 Mir Hasan .	..	Phatak Mir Saheb, Arrah.

The details of some of the important *waqfs* are given below:—

Bibi Bataso (115)

This *waqf* was established by late Bibi Bataso w/o late Sheikh Hussain Baksh of Aurangabad Saraiya, Shahabad on the 5th September 1903 The objects of this *waqf* are—*Majlis* during *Ashrai Muharram* and *Chehallum*, *dafan-kafan* (burial) for the poor Shia Muslims and for the primary education (only *Quaran*) for poor children. The properties of the *waqf* are *Mouza* Hurka, *touzi* no. 6860 and one *katcha-pucca* building

Hakim Mohammad Tahir (118)

This *waqf* was established by Mohammad Tahir Chaudhuri in 1941 and the object is for *Majlis-wa-Matam* (*Muharram*). The property of the *waqf* is only *touzi* no. 4741.

Mir Hasan (121).

One late Sri Mir Hasan Askari had established this *waqf* in 1891 and its objects are—

(i) *Milad-wa-Majlis* (*Ashrai Muharram*—ten days *Majlis* during *Muharram*),

(ii) to feed the *musafirs* (travellers); and

(iii) repairing of the *waqf* buildings

The properties of the *waqf* are—

(i) five buildings at Arrah town;

(ii) *Mahal* Koath, *Pargana* Namaro, and

(iii) Erazichak.

CHAPTER XVI

PLACES OF INTEREST

ADHAURA.—A village situated at a height of 2,000 feet on the plateau of Kaimur hills at a distance of 36 miles south of Bhabua, the subdivisional headquarters, has an area of 2,365.12 acres. The cultivated area, however, is only 208.22 acres. The population of the village in 1963 is 615 souls distributed over 107 households.*

It is the headquarters of the police-station and Community Development Block of the same name. It has a post office, a forest range office, one higher secondary school with 20 students, one basic middle school with 58 students, one State dispensary, one State veterinary dispensary, one District Board dak bungalow, one co-operative society, one gram-*gola*, one *gram panchayat* and some petty shops.

The village is still very primitive in spite of the Government offices. There is a tea stall where tea is served in thick glass tumblers to customers who are seated on *chatai*.

The villagers produce paddy, wheat, *jawar*, maize, gram, peas, oil-seeds, etc. There is no industry worth the name in the village.

The scenery surrounding the village is captivating but cannot easily be enjoyed all the year round because of its inaccessibility in certain seasons. The only approach to the village is a steep jeepable fair weather road connecting it with Bhabua, the headquarters of the subdivision of the same name. During the British regime, officers and big zamindars used to visit the area for enjoying the scenery and also for shooting. People still go there for *shikar*. The dak bungalow was primarily constructed about twenty years back to give accommodation to such people. Lime was made at Adhaura itself. Sleepers were cut to pieces at Chenari and carried as head load. Corrugated sheets and iron materials also had to be carried as head load.

Adhaura village is the headquarters of the police-station of the same name. The staff consists of one Sub-Inspector, one Assistant Sub-Inspector, and eight Constables. The police-station was at first a police outpost only. According to the records available in the Subdivisional Officer's office, Bhabua it appears that land for the building of Adhaura police outpost was acquired in 1856 and that for Adhaura police-station building in 1862. This shows that the police-station was established near about 1862. This police-station generally has to deal on an average of 20 cases of petty thefts and burglaries in a year. In 1962 it had to deal with two murder cases

* The figures have been supplied by the Village Level Worker, Adhaura.

also. The thana has got no *Dafadari* or *Ghatwali* system. It has Chowkidars only under it who have to follow the daily *hazri* system for which they have to come to the thana The thana has a beautiful garden in its compound maintained by the thana staff and is better maintained than the one in the Block office compound.

AKBARPUR.—This is an ancient and historical village situated at the foot of the Kaimur hill and three miles off from Rohtasgarh. A hill stream passes through it, which during the rainy season becomes quite formidable The village has an area of 824.40 acres and 610 households The total population is 3,557, i.e., 1,806 males and 1,751 females according to the figures supplied by the Rohtas Block Office (March, 1964)

J. F. W. James in the old *Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) mentions regarding Akbarpur:—"Population 2,037 A village on the banks of the Son, thirty miles south of Dehri, the terminus of the Dehri-Rohtas Light Railway The village is situated at a short distance from the rocky precipice of Rohtasgarh, to its north stands Muth hill, two hundred feet high, consisting of limestone in thin strata At the foot of the Rohtas plateau, there is a tomb of the kind known as *chardiwarrah*, built between 1636 and 1638 A.D which consists of a four-walled enclosure containing a raised stone terrace and three prayer niches on the western side, with seven stone sarcophagi on a stone platform Over the gate is a long Persian inscription recording the fact that the tomb was built for himself and his family by Malik Wisal, the *daroga* of Rohtasgarh, in the reign of Shah Jahan, when Ikhlas Khan was its *kiladar* or commandant It mentions Akbarpur as one of the *parganas* forming the *jagir* of the *kiladar*

"During the Mutiny Akbarpur and the neighbourhood were infested by the followers of Kuar Singh, and it was for sometime a centre of disturbance In October 1858 the mutineers of the Ramgarh battalion, on being defeated at Chatra in Chota Nagpur, took up a position in Akbarpur, where they were joined by some of Kuar Singh's men Here captain Rattray attacked them with his Sikhs and sowars and drove them with some loss into the jungles towards Rohtas On this occasion the cavalry of Rattray's battalion, who had been deprived of their carbines on suspicion of being disaffected and were armed only with *talwars*, fought with such gallantry that their carbines were restored to them in recognition of the loyalty and courage they had displayed

"Akbarpur contains a charitable dispensary, a police-station (Rohtas) and an inspection bungalow Here are the ruins of an old indigo factory, with the graves of the planter and his family in the compound The house was used for many years as the inspection bungalow; but it has now fallen into ruin".*

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), pages 150-151.

Since James wrote Akbarpur has had many changes in the village. The Muslim population is about 60 per cent in the village. The two major communities, the Muslims and the Hindus live in peace and amity For instance, during the last election of the Akbarpur *gram panchayat* in 1962, a Hindu candidate was elected as *Mukhiya*

The village is the headquarters of the police-station and Community Development Block of Rohtas It was the terminus of the Dehri-Rohtas Light Railway but since 1960 the line has been extended up to Pipardih. Two Up and Down passenger trains connect Dehri to Pipardih

There are two lower primary schools, one *madarsa*, one middle school and one high school with 250 students and nine teachers. There is one library with about 750 books The village has a dramatic club and a football team. The village has one temple, one *thakurbari*, two mosques and one *Idgah* where *Id* prayers are offered. It has one library with 750 books and on the average about 40 persons attend the library daily in the evening

The village has a *gram panchayat*, one State dispensary with six indoor beds and a veterinary hospital Besides, it has two allopathic, three homoeopathic and two *Ayurvedic* practitioners.

For water-supply, 20 wells exist in the village which are privately managed Besides, 10 wells have been provided by the block.

About 1,750 persons have been inoculated and 900 persons have been vaccinated from 1960-61 to 1963-64

Besides the permanent shops, a *hat* is held on Thursdays and Sundays. *Melas* are held in the village on the occasion of *Saraswati Puja* and *Durga Puja*. A big *mela* is held on the occasion of *Muharram* as well

The village is much congested and the incidence of sanitation is very poor.

The village has a post office On an enquiry it was ascertained that during 1962 63, on the average 121 money-orders were received every month for the average amount of Rs. 6,391. The average number of money-orders sent out every month come to 342 with the amount of Rs 1,12,437. The post office serves the labourers and others working in Banjari and other quarries The village has been provided with electric light and about 50 houses have been electrified till 1963. One multi-purpose co-operative society has been started with 90 members. A sum of Rs 8,421 has been advanced as loan out of which Rs. 5,379 has been realised

There is a gram-*gola* in the village which gives paddy seed to the Harijans and tribal people of the entire block area. On enquiry it was ascertained that ten persons had been given paddy seed during 1962-63 (50 maunds in total) which has not been realised as yet.

The village lacks proper irrigation facilities. The limestone quarries and the cement factory at Banjari, located at about two miles from Akbarpur provide a good source of labour employment to about 100 persons of this village.

AKORHI.—Akorhi, a village in the Bhabua subdivision, has a cattle fair held four times in a year in the months of *Falgun*, *Baisakh*, *Jeth* and *Kartick*. About 50,000 cattle are brought for sale and purchase at each of the *melas* at Akorhi.

ARRAH SUBDIVISION.—The last *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) mentions as follows:—

"Headquarters subdivision of the district, lying between 25° 10′ and 25° 46′ N., and 84° 17′ and 84° 51′ E., and extending over 917 square miles. Its population was 6,27,795 in 1921, its density being 684 to the square mile, as compared with the district average of 417 persons; in the Arrah thana the density is as great as 782 inhabitants to the square mile. The northern part of the subdivision consists of the low lands marking the old bed of the Ganges, which are annually inundated during the rains; in the remainder the alluvial soil is of more recent origin. Out of the total area 743 square miles are cultivated, of which 340 square miles are irrigated."*

The subdivision has expanded enormously and there have been many sided development.

The following chart will show the incidence of population in Arrah subdivision from 1901 to 1961:—

Year.	Persons.	Males.	Females.
1901	699,956	329,564	370,392
1911	631,226	305,198	326,028
1921	627,795	306,793	321,002
1931	696,033	345,971	350,082
1941	796,871	396,262	400,609
1951†	885,270	441,077	444,193
1961‡	1,031,645	508,699	522,946

* District Gazetteer of Shahabad (1924), page 151.

† The 1901 to 1951 figures have been taken from *District Census Handbook, Shahabad* (1951) page 8.

‡ *Census of India* 1961 Vol. IV *Bihar Part II A, General Population Tables*, page [illegible].

From the census figure it appears that the population of the subdivision is increasing rapidly.

The Subdivisional Officer is the head of the administration of the subdivision. He is directly under the administrative control of the District Magistrate. There are eight police-stations, namely, Arrah Mufassil, Sandes, Barhara, Shahpur, Jagdishpur, Piro, Sahar and Tarari in this subdivision.

This subdivision has 11 Community Development Blocks, namely, Arrah, Udwantnagar, Sandes, Barhara, Shahpur, Jagdishpur, Koilwar, Piro, Bihea, Sahar and Tarari. The Block is a unit for revenue administration as for the development work. Each Block has been placed under a gazetted officer who is called the Block Development Officer. He is normally of the rank of a Deputy Collector or a Sub-Deputy Collector. The Block Development Officer has to do all the revenue and development work of a Block.

There are two municipalities at Arrah and Jagdishpur towns in the subdivision. The details of the municipalities will be found on 'Local Self-Government' chapter.

As regards trade, this subdivision exports, rice, mango, gram, fish, etc., to Saran, Patna, Dinapur, Calcutta, etc. It imports medicine, machine, soap, shoes, etc, from Calcutta, Bombay, Kanpur, Varanasi, etc. The details will be found on 'Banking, Trade and Commerce' chapter.

Agriculture is the main occupation of the bulk of the population. Now the subdivision has got a network of electric propelled tube-wells regularly fed with water from the tube-wells.

The soil of the subdivision is very fertile due to the rich alluvial deposits made by the Ganga annually. The main crops are paddy, wheat, gram, maize, *rahar*, *masoor* and *khesari*. The details will be found on 'Agriculture and Irrigation' chapter.

The incidence of education is fairly high The people of this subdivision pay much attention to education. There are 30 high schools including higher secondary schools and four colleges, 73 lower and upper primary schools in this subdivision.

This subdivision is well connected with rail, road and water-ways. The details will be found on 'Communications' chapter.

This subdivision has two main rivers, i.e., Ganga and Sone. Ganga enters this subdivision from Buxar subdivision and flows from west to east. There are also many distributaries and branches of Sone canal which are for irrigation purposes. The rivers have been described in the General text.

There are no mineral deposits in this subdivision. As various aspects of the Sadar Subdivision have been covered in the different texts a repetition has not been made here. Although not industrialised the Sadar subdivision is important. It has a historicity of its own and being the headquarters of the district continues in importance.

ARRAH TOWN.—The last *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) mentions as follows:—

"The headquarters of the district, situated in 84° 40′ east longitude and 25° 34′ north latitude, about fourteen miles south of the Ganges and eight miles west of the Son.

"The population (1921) is 40,769. In 1901 the population was 46,170, but the town suffered severely from plague in the following few years, and in 1911 the population had fallen to 38,549. It is now again rising. The town was constituted a municipality on June 1st, 1865; there are 7,797 rate-payers, and the municipal board consists of thirty members, of whom twenty-four are elected. The town has a filtered water-supply from the Son. Arrah Junction railway station, 368 miles from Calcutta, on the main line of the East Indian Railway, is also the terminus of the Arrah-Sasaram light Railway."

Legendary history.—"General Cunningham* has identified Arrah with the place mentioned by Hiuen Tsiang as that at which Asoka set up a stupa to commemorate the conversion by Buddha of the demons of the desert who feasted on the blood and flesh of men. Even to this day, a legend lingers that this part of the country was the home of a powerful demon named Bakra, whose daily food was a human being supplied either by the village of Bakri or by Chakrapur (or Ekachakra†), as Arrah was then called. During their wanderings, the five Pandavas came to Chakrapur and were entertained by a Brahman whose turn it was to supply a victim for the demon. Bhim Pandava, on hearing this declared that as he had eaten the Brahman's salt, he would go himself to the demon, and setting forth, he fought and killed him at Bakri, and then brought his body to Chakrapur. This myth is found in a more complete form in the Mahabharata and General Cunningham considers that it must have been one of the time-honoured legends of antiquity which the Buddhists adopted for the glorification of their great teacher. The village of Bakri still exists in the near neighbourhood of Arrah, and though there are no ancient remains at either place, the Brahmanical legend of Bakrasur is, in the opinion of General Cunningham, so clearly identical with that of the man-eating demons described by the Chinese pilgrim that he accepts Arrah as the site of

* S. A. S. I. Vol. III, pages 72—79 (Calcutta, 1873).

† Eka Cakra is mentioned in the Mahawanso as one of the capital cities of ... in the time of Buddha.

the stupa and lion pillar erected by Asoka. He further considers that the name of Aramnagar preserved in the modern Jain inscription at Masar was given to the town by the Buddhists when they adopted the Brahmanical legend, Aramnagar meaning the city of repose or monastery city, as *aram* (repose) was the special term used by the Buddhists to designate a monastery.

"Another account derives the name of the town from Aranya or desert, and an old temple standing between the old and new portions of the town still goes by the name of Aranya Devi. Various other legends, which have been devised to account for the name and which give more or less fanciful derivations of it, will be found in General Cunningham's article on Arrah in Vol. III Reports) A. S. I

"The Emperor Babar marched to Arrah after his victory over Mahmud Lodi and his rebellious Afghan followers Local tradition still points to a place near the site of the old courts of the District Judge as that on which he pitched his camp and celebrated his assumption of sovereignty over western Bihar, and it is said that the spot, which until recently used to be called Shahabad in commemoration of this event, was also the site occupied by the residence of the local *faujdar* who was in charge of *sarkar* Shahabad under the Mughal Emperors"*.

Arrah has since expanded enormously and is now a large town. The following chart will show the incidence of the growing population of Arrah town from 1901 to 1961:—

Year	Persons.	Males	Females.
1901 ..	46,170	22,019	24,151
1911 .	38,549	19,955	18,594
1921	40,769	21,564	19,205
1931	48,922	26,635	22,287
1941	53,122	28,456	24,666
1951 ..	64,205	33,683	30,522
1961 .	76,766	41,748	35,018

The town is connected by rail, road and waterways A large number of buses connect Arrah with Buxar, Dumraon, Piro, Jagdishpur, Sasaram, Patna, etc Daily about 1,000 persons come to and go out from the town by the bus services The two railway stations serving Arrah town bring more than 2,000 persons everyday to the

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), pages 151-152

town and near about the same number leave the town through the railways as well There are two railway stations in the town, one the Eastern Railway and the other the Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway.

The main roads in the town are metalled The Arrah Municipality maintains about five miles of *pucca* roads within the town The vehicles within the town are buses, rickshaws, cycles, taxies, *tamtams* and bullock carts The road traffic is extremely heavy for the narrow roads without footpaths or rickshaw tracks Ponies were more in use before The traditional Shahabadi on the horse was a common sight in Arrah town two decades back

For the accommodation of the visitors in the town a circuit house, a dak bungalow, an inspection bungalow and *dharmashalas* are available Besides, there are hotels and a number of cheap road-side eating houses and tea shops which also offer temporary accommodation. These road-side shops mostly cater for the litigant public who come from outside the town.

The main household industries of the town are soap making handloom weaving, shoe-making, making of trunks and furniture There are several rice mills

Being the headquarters of the district, a large number of Government offices are located here They include the offices of the District Magistrate Subdivisional Officer, District Education Officer, Superintendent of Education, District Animal Husbandry Officer, District Agriculture Officer, Income Tax Officer, Central Excise Officer, Superintendent of Post Offices, Municipal Office, District Board Office, etc

Public water supply in the town is obtained from the two water towers belonging to the Public Health Engineering Department But as the supply is insufficient tube-wells with hand pumps have been sunk in many places Some people use well-water from wells within their compound

The town has 76 lower primary and middle schools, seven high and higher secondary schools including two for girls and four colleges The details will be found on 'Education and Culture' chapter

The town has five libraries including one Muslim library The biggest library of the town is the Jain library The details will be found on 'Education and Culture' chapter The town has one town club where indoor games are played and three children parks

The sanitation of the town is poor It is supervised by two Sanitary Inspectors A conservancy staff of 120 headed by *Jamadars* is maintained who cleans about 2,320 private and public latrines.

The town has one Sadar hospital, one police hospital and one Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway hospital. The details will be found on 'Medical and Public Health Services' chapter.

There are four post offices in the Arrah town The town has a telephone exchange with about 300 connections in the town only.

The town has one class I veterinary dispensary, three slaughter houses and four liquor shops. In order to organise the sale of pure milk and improve the quantity of milk, one *goshala* has been started which is privately managed The State Government have distributed six bulls and cows to the *goshala*

The town has about 30 grain-*golas* On the average about 40 to 50 labourers work in each of the *golas* of the wholesale dealers The town has a vegetable market and a fish market which are held daily The chief modes of conveyance for carrying goods in the market are bullock carts, pack bullocks, *tamtam*, etc.

It is an important trade centre. Its hinterland has a rich produce of grain and vegetables

There are some *mohallas* in the town which are named after particular castes such as Chiktoli, Mahajantoli, Milki, Ahirpura, Missirtoli and Bindtoli The names of these *mohallas* indicate that the predominant population followed particular profession and belonged to particular occupational castes Babu Bazar signifies the name of Babu Kunwar Singh and Maulabagh was named after a Muslim woman of the same name The urbanisation trends of the town have been traced elsewhere *

There is an electric power house in the town and there are two cinema houses. The students are the main patrons of the cinema house.

No account of Arrah town will be complete without a reference to some of its antiquarian remains. According to the local traditions, the town had various names in ancient time such as Chakrapura, Ekachakra and Aramanagara.

There is a colossal statue of Vishnu kept in the garden of the Maharaja of Dumraon. It represents Vishnu although locally it is known as the Banasura. It originally belonged to the ancient site of Masarh and was brought to Arrah by the then Maharaja of Dumraon in 1882.

Three mosques in Arrah town require particular mention. Jama Masjid in the heart of the town was built up of bricks in the reign of Aurangzeb. The Maula Bagh Masjid was built by a Muslim wife of John Deane who in early 19th century was the Collector of Arrah and later became the Commissioner of the

* Urbanisation trends of Arrah have been discussed in the text on "People"

Division Deane died in 1817 and was buried in the outer garden of the mosque The building is found to be of mixed Saracenic style with foliated arches, three ornamental domes and eight minarets It was constructed in 1834. There is another mosque which was built by Kuar Singh at the request of his Muslim keep, Dharman Bibi Locally the mosque is known as Dharman Bibi *ki masjid* It may incidentally be mentioned that Dharman Bibi accompanied Kuar Singh in his exploits against the British and died when Kuar Singh was fighting the British. Her grave was said to be somewhere at Kalpi The building known as Arrah house became famous in 1857. It is a small two storeyed structure on a raised plinth built by Vicers Boyle, the then Engineer of the East Indian Railway (now Eastern Railway) It was intended as a billiard room and attached to the residence at a short distance away In 1857 when insurrection broke out a number of British Officers took their refuge within this structure and put up a gallant defence till they were rescued

BABHNAUL.—A village in Sasaram subdivision, situated at a distance of 11 miles north of Bikramganj. A metalled (Bikramganj Dumraon) road runs nearby the village

The village is under the jurisdiction of Dawath police-station and Dawath block According to the census of 1951 its total population was 3,329, i e 1,683 males and 1,646 females According to the figures supplied by the *Mukhiya* its total population is 3,835 in 1961 The villagewise 1961 census figures have not yet been published

The village has a mixed population consisting of agriculturists, businessmen and service holders but the agriculturists predominate. The main castes are Brahman, Rajput, Pathan, Sayed Kurmi, etc

The village has a post office, a lower primary school, two upper primary schools and a middle school There is a library in the village which was established in 1950 There are about 500 books in it It subscribes daily newspapers The readership is poor.

The main crops are paddy, wheat gram, etc There is a statutory *gram panchayat* in the village The houses are mostly mud built with straw roofing The village has got electricity But very few houses have got electric connection There are three flour mills There are four temples and two mosques and five *kirtan mandalis* in the village

Babhnaul is one of the largely populated villages of Shahabad district and has contributed largely to the Police and Army forces This village along with a number of other large villages like Jagdishpur Koath Surajpura, etc have suffered because the richer and the more advanced families have been migrating fast to the towns and their village interests are neglected

BABURA.—Babura village is an important village situated at the north-east of the Shahabad district To its north, on the other bank of the Ganga, lies the Saran district. Chapra is only five miles from here

The bulk of the population consists of the Rajputs; then comes the Ahirs, Brahmans, Dusadhs, Hajams, Koeries, Harijans, etc. There are few Muslims also Literacy is rare In 1963 there were only five Matriculates, two I As and one B A There is one high school and one middle school. The people of this village do not seem to like female education The Rajputs still insist on strict restrictions on the movement of the women There are several temples and one mosque There are five or six toddy shops.

Babura is a big village and it includes eight tolas. The local crops are wheat, gram, peas, mustard seeds, etc There is no cultivation of *bhadai*, as the soil is sandy and there is no provision of irrigation Fruits like melon, etc, grow in large number There are ten grainshops and several shops to sell cloth, sweets and toddy.

There is one co-operative society in this village The members of the co-operative society are trying to introduce joint co-operative farming in the village

One remarkable feature is that most of the area of cultivated lands are in the hands of a very few people. There is a large number of landless people.

The importance of this village lies in river trade and traffic with Saran district, specially with Chapra. The people of Shahabad district come here mostly for going to Chapra or to any place in the Saran district. Mostly, the goods of Shahabad district, particularly rice and other foodgrains are exported to Saran district through this village There are three ghats, viz, Ekama Ghat. Doriganj Ghat and Khalpura Ghat in its vicinity. The *ghats* are given on *bundobast* to the private contractors on annual basis on a lump sum, which varies from year to year They take from the travellers 25 P and the same charge for one maund of grain for crossing the river on their boats Saran district is more of a scarcity area, and Babura village is the main supplier to that district The people of this village do trade with Arrah. via 'Ganga'. From Arrah, they bring rice, pulse, sugar, etc., in exchange of the local products, i e, the *rabi*

There are a few roads leading to the village. But the condition of roads is not good. There is one *katcha* road from Semeria to Babura on Arrah-Chapra road But it does not come straight to the village. Only *ekkas* can come by a *katcha* tract, passing through the fields via Kesopur The other route is Koilwar-Babura road. Buses cannot run on this due to the sandy tracts. Koilwar is six miles from here and Maner is five miles. One can go to Chapra, which is five miles from here on foot after crossing the Ganga.

But in the rainy season, all communications come to an end The flood waters surround and boats remain the only source of communication They move to Arrah by boat via the Ganga canal. They move from village to village on boats It is why even each well-to-do family keeps one or two boats for the rainy season All schools remain closed during the rainy season There is no summer vacation, instead the students get flood vacation

The people of this village carry their economic transactions in several nearest primary and secondary markets, viz, Babura market, Chakia Bazar market, Rajapur Bazar, Jamalpur Bazar, and Matakpur Bazar They also visit the Maner and Chapra Bazars and carry their sale and purchase

BAIDYANATH --This is a village six miles south of Ramgarh in Bhabua subdivision In the north-east portion of the village there is a *Siva* temple, on a large mound, built of ancient *disjecta* one of which is supposed to bear the name of Raja Madanapaladeva, probably of the Later Pratihara dynasty Baidyanath is alleged to have been the capital of the *Savaras* Though one of the most interesting sites in India it has never been thoroughly explored It is surrounded on all sides by numerous ruins illustrative of the earliest Indian architecture. H. B W Garrick who visited the place in 1881-82 has left a very interesting account. (*A.S R.*, Volume XIX, pages 27 to 47)

It is unfortunate that antiquarian remains at this village and near about have not been properly investigated Buchanan Hamilton had visited Baidyanath and had mentioned that the ancient ruins were said to be attributed to Raja Madana Pala In 1882 Garrick had excavated a part of the mound and found that the original temples consisted of the sanctum and a large pillared hall or *mandapa* and possibly a portico in its front. Garrick had traced three inscriptions Dr D R Patil* has mentioned that none of the inscriptions seems to have been noticed and edited subsequently Half a mile north-east of the village is a low mound known as *Kakahaigarh* where old pottery and gold coins have been found Round about the village there are numerous tanks having ancient names. Near the village there are ruins of numerous buildings known as *Kots*, some of which were called after the various hamlets nearby Near the hamlet of Manipur are two high mounds where a number of coins were found some of them being of Akbar's reign Garrick attributes all the ruins at Baidyanath to the Suirs or Sabaras but this does not appear to have been examined by any one.

BANJARI—A village in Sasaram subdivision situated at a distance of five miles towards north-west from Akbarpur. the block headquarters has now become important because of a cement factory

* The Antiquarian Remains in Bihar by Dr D. R Patil (Patna) 1963, Pages 9-10

and lime quarry. It is under the jurisdiction of Rohtas police station. It has an area of 565.85 acres and 164 households. The total population is 1,911, i.e., 1,169 males and 742 females according to the figures supplied by Rohtas Block Office Kalyanpur Cement Factory is located in this village. There are lime-stone hills in the vicinity.

So far as communication is concerned this village has a railway station, viz., Banjari railway station of Dehri-Rohtas Light Railway. This village is connected by road from Dehri.

There are a number of permanent shops in the village and a *hat* is also held on every Sunday and Thursday There is one liquor shop.

As regards medical facilities the factory has started one hospital with three indoor beds with one male Doctor, three Compounders and four Dressers The State Government has started an Employees State Insurance dispensary for the registered labourers and factory hands.

There are two middle schools with 300 students and one high school with 175 students and four teachers The incidence of literacy in the village is not very low. About 70 per cent of the villagers are employed in the factory

The village has a post office in the premises of the cement factory. On the average 137 money orders are received with a corresponding amount of Rs 6,819 per month The average number of money-orders sent out every month comes to 212 for the amount of Rs 10,310. The trends show that the place is inhabited by outsiders also who send money to their families

As regards welfare facilities to the industrial labourers, the factory has started two voluntary welfare centres in the village and a library. There is also a recreation club and a good playground. For labourers one creche and one canteen have been provided. The village is electrified

The village has a rest house maintained by the factory, two multi-purpose co-operative societies, a *gram* panchayat and two temples

The village has a mixed population, consisting of agriculturists, businessmen and service holders But the service holders have predominance in population in the village. The main castes are Rajput, Gwala, Bania, Brahman and Kayastha

The details regarding "Kalyanpur Cement Factory" have been discussed elsewhere

BHABUA SUBDIVISION.—The *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1906) mentions, "The South-Western Subdivision of the district, lying between 24°54' E, and extending over 1,301 square miles. Its population was 3,06,401 in 1901 against 3,44,902 in 1891, its density

being 236 persons to the square mile The Kaimur hills in the south afford little space for cultivation, and the Bhabua thana with 181 persons to the square mile has the scantiest population of any tract in South Bihar It is estimated that out of the total area, 505 square miles are cultivated; only 20 square miles are irrigated from the Son canals The whole of the subdivision is very unhealthy, and it also suffered severely in the famine of 1896-97. It contains one town Bhabua, its headquarters and 1,427 villages. An old Hindu temple stands on Mundeshwari hill, and Chainpur also contains antiquities of some interest'.*

There was not much change in Bhabua Subdivision by 1924 when the next *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* was published The population had slightly declined. The population of 1921 was a drop from the population of 1911 as will be shown later. Bhabua thana had a density of 182 persons per square mile which was the scantiest population of any tract in South Bihar Bhabua thana included five hundred square miles on the Kaimur Plateau. Large and small games continued to be plentiful in the western portion of the plateau

The following table will show the variation of population in Bhabua subdivision from 1901 to 1961 —

Year	Persons	Males	Females
1901	3,06,401	1,49,784	1,56,617
1911	3,07,089	1,50,838	1,56 251
1921	2 97,986	1,47,996	1,49,990
1931	3,24,841	1,63,874	1,60,967
1941	3,83,588	1,97,847	1,85,741
1951	4,40,138	2,24,300	2,15,838
1961	5,31,748	2,69,148	2,62,600

From the census figures it appears that the population of the subdivision is increasing rapidly

The Subdivisional Officer is the head of the administration of the subdivision and he is directly under the administrative control of the District Magistrate There are eight police-stations, namely, Bhabua, Mohania Ramgarh, Durgawati, Kudra, Chainpur, Adhaura and Chand in the subdivision

This subdivision has nine Community Development Blocks, namely, Bhabua, Mohania, Ramgarh, Durgawati, Kudra, Bhagwanpur, Chainpur, Adhaura and Chand The block is an unit for

* District Gazetteer of Shahabad (1906), page 131

revenue administration and for the development work. Each block has been placed under a gazetted officer who is called the Block Development Officer.

Bhabua town has a municipality This is the only municipality in this subdivision. The details will be found on 'Local Self-Government' chapter.

As regards trade, this subdivision exports rice, gram, forest produce, etc, to Varanasi, Patna, Kanpur, etc It imports medicine, machine, soap, shoes, etc, from Calcutta, Bombay, Kanpur, Varanasi, etc The details have been dealt with in the chapter "Banking, Trade and Commerce".

Agriculture is the main occupation of the bulk of the population Now the subdivision has got a network of electric propelled tube-wells

The rivers which flow through this subdivision are Kao, Kudra and Durgawati Kudra river is a branch of Kao.

Portions of the subdivision grow good rice Although Bhabua subdivision has only one town, namely Bhabua, there are quite a large number of important villages There are a number of important *melas* which have been mentioned elsewhere. The Grand Trunk Road passes through the subdivision and connects the subdivision with Varanasi and other places The Grand Chord Line of the Eastern Railway also passes through the subdivision. The nearest railway station Bhabua Road of Eastern Railway connects the subdivisional headquarters It is about nine miles from Bhabua the subdivisional headquarters. The details regarding the communication in the subdivision will be seen in the chapter "Communication" The conveyances are *tamtam,* bullock carts, ponies, taxis, buses, trucks, rickshaws and cycles.

The subdivision has no industrial importance so far.

The main castes of the subdivision are Brahmans, Bhumihars and Rajputs. There is a fair proportion of tribals and the Scheduled Castes. The tribals are mostly confined to the Kaimur plateau. Some attempts have recently been made to ameliorate the condition of the tribals an account of which will be found elsewhere.

It is also to be noted that there is a large number of Cheros and Kharwars scattered all over the subdivision The Cheros and the Kharwars have a historic past For quite a long time they were actually ruling over small tracts, often quarreling with each other due to the weak Government of the Muslim chiefs Many of the villages will be found to have been built on mounds and there are places of natural hide-outs in the jungles and terrains Almost like the Barons of England, these small Cheros and Kharwar chiefs would pay a tithe whenever any superior power would invade and would

quickly resume themselves when the menace was past. It is remarkable that the Cheros and the Kharwars like their counterpart in Palamau district are now claiming Rajput descent and are keen for inter-marriages with Rajputs. They still figure as Scheduled Tribes and get the benefits thereof although they claim Rajput lineage

Although the subdivision has got a fairly good road system it has got a certain notoriety for crime One of the probable reasons is the situation of the subdivision which is on the borders of the districts of Ghazipur, Varanasi, and Mirzapur of Uttar Pradesh and Palamau in Bihar There have also been occasional instances of communalism in certain pockets of the subdivision

BHABUA TOWN.—Regarding Bhabua town the last *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), mentions as follows.—

"Headquarters station of the subdivision of the same name situated in 25°[illegible]' N., and 83°37' E. The population (5,435) is apparently stationary. The town is connected by a good road with Mohania, where is the Bhabhua Road station of the East India Railway* (10½ miles). Bhabhua was constituted a municipality in 1869, the municipal board consists of ten members, of whom eight are elected. There are 940 rate-payers. The town contains the usual subdivisional offices, a hospital, and a good inspection bungalow."†

The town has since expanded. Although still rural Bhabua has taken some urban traits. The total population in 1951 census‡ was 7,858 persons, i.e., 4,153 males and 3,705 females. In 1961 census its population was 9,890 persons, i.e., 5,378 males and 4,512 females.**

The town is well connected with Varanasi, Dehri-on-Sone, Arrah and Patna. Buses, trucks, rickshaws, *tamtams* and taxis ply in the town.

So far as the medical and public health is concerned the town has a subdivisional hospital. Besides there are allopathic, homoeopathic and *Ayurvedic* private practitioners in the town. There is no sewerage system within the town. Being the headquarters of the subdivision, a large number of Government offices are located here.

The Bhabua Municipality has constructed wells and has surface handpumps for drinking purposes. The sanitation work of the town is looked after by the municipality.

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* North Eastern Railway

† Dist. Gazetteer of Shahabad (1924), page 157

‡ District Census Hand-Book of Shahabad (1951), page 9

** Census of India, 1961, Volume IV, page 31

For the accommodation of the tourists and officials there is a dak bungalow in the town Besides, there are *dharamshalas,* hotels and cheap eating houses which accommodate the visitors. There is a cinema house in the town.

The town has a big agricultural marketing centre It deals in paddy, rice, wheat, gram, *khesari, masoor,* mustard-seeds line-seeds and *magraila*, obtained locally and exported to Samastipur, Darbhanga, Bhagalpur, Patna, Tatanagar, Jharia, Fatwah, Mokameh and Calcutta There are a large number of whole-salers and retailers. Hats are held on Thursdays and Sundays A cattle fair is held here in *Kartic, Magh, Chait, Baisakh* and *Jeth* every year

BHAGWANPUR.—This is an ancient and historical village situated at the foot of Kaimur hill and seven miles towards the south from Bhabua, the subdivisional headquarters.

The old *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) mentions —

"A village six miles south of Bhabhua, on the Shuara river, and on the road which runs from Bhabhua to Rohtas through Karar, across the Kaimur plateau This is the seat of Kumar Chandra Sen Saran Singh, head of one of the most ancient Rajput families of the district The family claim descent from the Rajas of Taxila, including King Porus among their ancestors, and describe how they migrated from Taxila to Fatehpur Sikri, and thence to Chausa and Chainpur In the time of Sher Shah Raja Salivahana was head of the family, ruling the Chainpur—Sasaram country he was killed and his property confiscated by Sher Shah It is said that Babar Shah, son of Raja Salivahana, was reinstated in the zamindari by the emperor Akbar; and Babar Shah's younger son Jait Singh settled at Jaitpur, where his descendants still hold zamindari The main branch of the family at Chainpur does not appear to have flourished, and Bhagwan Singh, great grandson of Babar Shah, retired to the banks of the Shuara, where he built a town named after himself, and a mud fort suitable to his reduced circumstances* Petty zamindaris were founded after this by collateral branches of the family which still survive, by Kenu Shah, younger son of Bhagwan Singh at Sabar and by Pahlwan Singh, younger son of Durga Shah, grandson of Bhagwan Singh, at Ramgarh. The head of the family at Bhagwanpur was nominally zamindar of Chainpur and in 1766 the fortunes of the family were temporarily restored, when the zamindari was definitely recognised and Chainpur was settled with Raja Arimardan Singh, grandson of Durga Shah The estate was subsequently farmed out, the later farmers being Reza Quli Khan and Ahmad Ali Khan; but Arimardan Singh would ultimately have obtained permanent settlement had he not been in outlawry from 1785, when he murdered a neighbour and absconded The family was again

* Eastern India, Vol I, page 450

reduced to the position of petty zamindars, holding nothing beyond a few *malikana* villages, but its head was ordinarily styled Raja. Surajbhan Singh, father of the present head of the family held the title of Raja as a personal distinction, but he encumbered the small family property so heavily that little now remains"*

Since James wrote, Bhagwanpur village has had many changes. It has an area of 243.50 acres with 380 households The total population (castewise) according to 1961 census as supplied by Bhagwanpur Block office is given below —

(1) Scheduled Tribes	Nil
(2) Scheduled Castes	180
(3) Backward Classes	1,008
(4) Others	549

Though the village was dominated by the Rajputs but the 1961 census reveals that Backward and Scheduled Castes people form the majority They are about 72 per cent in the village That is why the *Mukhiya* of the *gram panchayat* of this village is elected among Harijans and the Rajputs have no voice It is the headquarter of Bhagwanpur Development Block

The details regarding the development made in the village is given below —

There are one lower primary school with 121 students and three teachers, one middle school with 77 students and two teachers and one high school started in 1950 with 200 students and nine teachers

For recreation the village has one *Balmandali*, one *natak mandali*, one *bhajan mandali*, one youth club, one library with 111 members and 644 books There was also one Social Education Centre in the village but since December 1962 it has been abolished The incidence of literary is as follows --males 279, females 46, Total—325 To encourage the villagers, the State Government have given grant (rupees 100) during 1962-63 and 75 books in shape of grant during 1963-64 to Bhagwanpur library

It has been discussed elsewhere that there is one State dispensary in the village and the villagers get relief from it The details regarding the number of patients treated have been discussed elsewhere On enquiry it was ascertained that though the block has provided one State dispensary in the village, the Medical Officer does not attend the dispensary regularly because he has to come from Bhabua, the subdivisional headquarters and he has also to look to the Adhaura dispensary, 36 miles from Bhabua

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), pages 157-58.

For water supply and sanitation, 13 wells exist in the village which are privately managed Only two wells have been repaired by the block during 1960 and 1962

About 1,872 persons have been inoculated and 1,100 persons have been vaccinated from 1957-58 to 1962-63 in the village

The village has a *gram panchayat* The *panchayat* is held in its own *pucca building.*

There is no market or *hat* in the village There are ten small retail shops in the village which any how meet the requirements of the villagers The villagers generally go to Bhabua market to purchase the commodities

The village has a post office since 1921 On enquiry it was ascertained that during 1962-63, on the average 97 money orders were received every month for the average amount of Rs. 4,371 The average number of money orders sent out every month comes to 87 with the amount of Rs. 4,539. Electricity has not been introduced in the village.

One multipurpose co-operative society has been started with 76 members Rs. 7,421 has been advanced as agricultural loan out of which Rs 4 379 00 has been realised

There is one grain-*gola* in the village which gives paddy seed to *harijans* and tribal people of the entire block area. On enquiry it was found that five persons had been given paddy seed in the village during 1961-62 (25 maunds in total) which has not been realised as yet

Impact of Community Development.—With the inception of the block in the village the people have been much influenced The block has tried to improve agriculture by supplying improved seeds and chemical manures. The villagers also prepare compost to apply in their own fields.

The table below supplied by Bhagwanpur Block will show the improved seeds distributed from 1958-59 to 1962-63 in the village.

Year	Quantity of seeds in maunds	No of persons.
1958-59 .	22 seers	2
1959-60 .	2 maunds	5
1960-61 .	3½ „	7
1961-62	5½ „	6
1962-63 .	11½ „	9

Chemical Fertilisers

Year	Quantity in maunds.	No. of persons.
1960-61	1½ maunds	3
1961-62	2½ ,,	4
1962-63	5½ ,,	6

The following persons were interviewed to ascertain the impact of Community Development in the village:—

(1) Bansidhar Pandey, (2) Kashi Pandey, (3) Sita Ram Lall, (4) Chunmun Lall, (5) Baleshwar Narain Verma, (6) Gopal Narain Singh, (7) Bishwa Nath Singh, (8) Lakshmi Choudhury, (9) Hanif Mian, and (10) Ram Karam Singh

On enquiry it was ascertained that there has been some development in the incidence of agriculture, animal husbandry, education, etc. Prior to the inception of the block the villagers used to go to the office of the Subdivisional Officer, Bhabua for any work but now many of their problems are solved in block office

Due to the opening of artificial insemination centre and veterinary dispensary, the villagers get much help in improving the breed and in the treatment of their animals It was found that till 1963 in Bhagwanpur village about 50 cattle had been artificially inseminated and 525 animals were given treatment which they did not get before the inception of the block

BHOJPUR.—The last *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) mentions Bhojpur as follows —

"A village two miles north of Dumraon, in the Buxar subdivision Population (1921) 3,605 The village derives its name from Raja Bhoj of Ujjain in Malwa, who is said to have invaded the district with a band of Rajput followers and subdued the aboriginal Cheros There are remains of the ancient places of Bhoj Rajas, which would probably repay the labour of excavation During the seventeenth century, and until 1745, this village was the headquarters of the Dumraon family The village gave its name to the pargana and the whole northern part of the district was commonly known as Bhojpur, and its inhabitants as Bhojpuris*".

The District Census Hand-Book of 1951 mentions two Bhojpurs namely Bhojpur *Kadim* and Bhojpur *Jadid*. The *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* has mentioned the *Kadim* Bhojpur. *Kadim* is an Urdu word which means old According to the Census of 1951 the total population of Bhojpur *Kadim* was 4,903, i e , 2,534 males and 2,369 females with 598 occupied houses The total number of literate persons was 885†

* District Gazetteer of Shahabad (1924), pages 158-159

† District Census Hand Book of Shahabad (1951), page 176.

The village has a lower primary school, an upper primary school and a big market. Although the village has a rich past it is neglected now The better classes of people have migrated to the towns. The village lives in its past although the currents beneath surface have been undermining the past also and Dumraon has stolen the tradition of Bhojpur

In about 1812 Buchanan Hamilton visited Bhojpur and had noticed traces of the old channel of river Ganga which is now more than 10 miles away in the north He had noticed ruins of bricks along the old channel and was of the opinion that an extensive town existed here which was swept away by the Ganga. There has been no proper exploration *

BIBIGUNJ —Bibigunj is a small village, six miles west of Arrah where the Buxar Road crosses the Banas river This was the scene of a determined struggle on the 13th October 1664 when the contingent under Capt Hector Manro was marching from Bankipore to Buxar In 1857, Bibigunj was again destined to be the scene of an action between the revolting sepoys and troops under Vincent Eyre Bibigunj has got a small market

BIHEA (BIHIA) – A large village in the Sadar subdivision is on the main line of the Eastern Railway It is well connected by road One has to go a few miles on the first class Arrah-Buxar Road and turn left and Bihea is on the road towards Piro Regarding this village the last *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* mentions as follows·--

"A village in the headquarters subdivision, situated on the East Indian Railway 382 miles from Calcutta Population (1921) 1,223. Bihia is an important trade centre, but is best known for the iron roller sugar mills worked by bullock power which were invented in 1874 by Messrs. Thomson and Mylne, grantees of the large confiscated estate at Bihia which formerly belonged to Kuar Singh (V Jagdishpur) Some years elapsed before their great superiority over the rude machines then in use was recognised, and the inventors had to contend against wholesale piracy, but the popularity of the Bihia mills is now firmly established The use of these machines as well as of countless imitations has become general throughout the province; and their introduction gave a powerful stimulus to the production of sugarcane and led to a great extension of the area under that crop both in this and other districts Bihia was formerly the home of a branch of Harihobans Rajputs. According to their own traditions, they were originally settled at Ratanpur in the Central Provinces, but in 850 A.D they migrated northwards to Manjha on the Gogra in the Saran district, where they waged successful war with the aboriginal Cheros Two centuries later they

* *Antiquarian Remains in Bihar* by Dr D R. Patil (Patna), 1963.

left Manjha and settled south of the Ganges at Bihia, and after a struggle lasting several hundred years subdued the Cheros who then held the country In or about the year 1528 A.D , the Raja, Bhopat Deo, violated Mahini, a Brahman woman, who thereupon burnt herself to death and in dying imprecated the most fearful curses on the Harihobans Rajputs After this tragedy the clan left Bihia and moved across the Ganges to Ballia The tomb of Mahini lies under a *pipal* tree close to the railway at Bihia and is visited by large numbers of women who come either to invoke her as a deified being or to offer oblations in commemoration of her It is said that nothing will induce members of the Harihobans sept to enter Bihia, though it was once the chief seat of their clan and the remains of their ancestors' fort may still be seen there "*

Iron roller sugar mills worked by bullock power have now gone out of use Electricity is available in the town

According to the census of 1961 its total population is 8,883 persons It has a police-station and a block office of the same name It has a dak bungalow, a higher secondary school, a teachers training school, a middle school, two primary schools, a State dispensary, a veterinary hospital and a post and telegraph office

This sub urban village 16 miles from Arrah and served by roads, and railway is inhabited by Hindus and Muhammadans communities The Marwaris and Banias form the largest majority in the village

The chief commercial classes are Agrawals, Marwaris and the Banias There are some doctors. The Marwaris are both bankers and traders Banias are usually petty traders in cloth and grains and they are the people that usually have grocery shops at street crossings The *puri* (wheat bread fried in *ghee*) is of superior quality sold by the *Halwais* (sweetmeat makers) There are about 20 timber dealers, 10 stone-slab dealers, 20 grain shops, 30 sweetmeat shops 20 cloth shops and about 50 miscellaneous shops in the village. The village has a big market of grains

The principal exports are rice, paddy, cattle, linseed, *gur* cart wheels etc , and are exported to Arrah, Patna Danapur, Ballia and Chapra The principal imports are timber, stone-slab, medicine and cloth and are imported from Nepal, Mirzapur, Calcutta and Bombay respectively There are 13 rice and oil mills in the village which are run by local businessmen.

Bihea is now one of the most important grain markets in Shahabad district Hundreds of bullock carts and some camels are commonly found everyday in connection with turnover of the commodities The tomb of Mahini still attracts hundreds of worshippers A police thana was opened because of the importance

* District Gazetteer of Shahabad (1924) pages 161 62

of the place and the recent opening of a block with headquarters at Bihea has added to the development of the township. Land price in the *bazar* area has gone up about hundred times in the course of last one decade.

BIHTA.—This village commonly known as Bihta Danwar is under the jurisdiction of Tarari police-station and its thana number is 449 It is at a distance of about 30 miles south-east from Arrah, the district headquarters The total population according to the census of 1951 was 3,648, i e, 1,857 males and 1,791 females. The total number of literates was 426, i.e, 385 males and 41 females.* The 1961 census figures are not available

The Dehri-Arrah canal passes near by the village The villagers are much benefited by canal irrigation The village is under the Package Programme. Almost all the villagers have given a portion of their land in intensive cultivation The main produce of this village are paddy, wheat, potato, etc.

This village is electrified and there are two flour mills There is a high school established in 1934. At present (April. 1964) there are about 500 students (boys and girls) and 10 teachers Besides, there are a lower primary school and an upper primary school

There is also a District Board *Ayurvedic* dispensary in the village It was established in 1954. It was reported by the *Vaidya* that about 25 patients daily visit the dispensary

The occupations of the villagers are agriculture, service, business, labour, etc. The main castes are Rajput, Bhumihar, Goala, etc

There is a Sri Krishna ***Pustakalaya*** in the village. There are about 700 books and it subscribes daily newspapers. The village has a post office and a *gram panchayat*

BIKRAMGANJ—A town situated at a distance of 35 miles south from Arrah It was treated as town for the first time in 1961 census. The total population of the town is 5,681, i e, 3,083 males and 2,598 females distributed over 829 households.

The town is well connected with both Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway and a number of roads. A large number of buses ply and connect this place with Arrah, Bhabua, Sasaram, Nasriganj, etc. Bikramganj is an important railway station on Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway. It is understood that about 1,500 persons daily come and go out from the town using the buses and the railways

The town is intersected by a number of metalled roads towards Arrah, Sasaram, Nasriganj and Babhnaul. The District Board maintains about 1½ miles of *pucca* road within the town. The *mahallas* have unmetalled paths. The vehicles are rickshaws, cycles, *tamtams*, taxis, bullock carts, ponies, etc.

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* *District Census Hand-Book, Shahabad* (1951), page 158.

The town has one higher secondary school, one senior basic school, three middle schools and four lower-upper primary schools There are two libraries in the town The daily readership consists of about 20 persons at each of the libraries There is a Degree College now (1964)

The town has no municipality or Notified Area Committee The sanitation of the town is looked after by the District Board It is supervised by a *jamadar* A conservancy staff of 10 persons clean the town For water supply the town has private wells and tube wells The District Board has provided about 30 tube-wells. The town has got the facility of electricity

There is a dispensary maintained by the Dumraon Raj It has eight beds There are two doctors including one lady doctor in the dispensary

The town has two post offices, one class I veterinary dispensary, one liquor shop, one *khadi gramodyoga ashram,* etc There was a sugar factory in the town but it has closed now due to the shortage of the raw materials

The town has a number of household industries like rope making, blanket manufacturing, soap-making, carpentry, pottery and blacksmithy There is an oilmen's industrial co-operative society and a blanket weaving co-operative society in the town

The town has about 10 grain *golas* On the average about 10 to 15 labourers work in the *gola* of the wholesale dealers. The town has about 10 rice, oil and flour mills

The town has a market of a variety of shops There are about 15 cloth shops, 20 *kirana* shops etc , in the town

The town plays an important role as a trade centre. The market has a turn over of foodgrain and the sources of supply are mostly from the neighbourhood There are a number of whole-salers and retailers

BRAHMAPUR —*It is a large village* in the Buxar subdivision, situated on Arrah-Buxar road It is about 24 miles west of Arrah It has a police-station and a block office of the same name. The nearest railway station (Raghunathpur of the Eastern Railway) is about 2 miles from the village

The village has a post and telegraph office with a public call office, an inspection bungalow, a higher secondary school, a lower primary school, an upper primary school, a Sanskrit *pathshala* and a *gram panchayat*

The village is just like a small township. There are several shops of various kinds A *hat* is held here on every Saturday. It deals mainly in paddy, rice, *arhar*, gram and vegetable, obtained and consumed locally.

Two religious-*cum*-cattle fairs are held here in the months of *Falgun* and *Baishakh* respectively. Thousands of people assemble here on these occasions and perform *puja* and worship Lord Shiva in the famous local temple

BUXAR SUBDIVISION —It lies in the north-western part of Shahabad district It has an area of 683 square miles. It has 724 villages and two towns, namely, Buxar and Dumraon. The variation in population of Buxar subdivision during the last fifty years has been as follows:—

Year	Buxar Sub-division	Buxar Revenue Thana	Dumraon Revenue Thana.
1901	416,704	156,426	260,278
1911	382,971	148,840	234,131
1921	352,137	131,274	220,863
1931	383,050	141,179	241,871
1941	457,902	171,383	286,519
1951*	536,754	216,302	320,452

The incidence of the present rural and urban population according to 1951 Census is as follows:—

Persons			Males			Females		
Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
536,754	502,062	34,692	270,519	252,291	18,228	286,235	249,771	16,464

The population of the rural area according to the Census Reports of the years 1921, 1931, 1941 and 1951 has been as follows:—

Year of Census.	Buxar rural area (Population)	Total Population of subdivision.
1921	325,907	352,137
1931	356,190	383,050
1941	426,707	457,902
1951	502,062	536,864

* Detailed figures for 1961 Census are not yet published.

The total population for Buxar subdivision shown in Shahabad District Census Handbook published in 1954 is 5,36,754 which is a printing mistake and it should be 5,36,854.

The population of the two towns in Buxar subdivision has been on the increase as follows.—

Year of Census	Buxar town.	Dumraon town.	Total.
1921 .. .	10,098	14,132	26,230
1931 .. .	13,449	14,421	27,860
1941 ..	14,879	16,316	31,195
1951	18,087	16,605	34,692

While the increase of population in Dumraon town has been gradual that of Buxar town has been rapid

According to 1951 Census Buxar subdivision has got a total number of 76,560 houses, out of which 70,343 situate in rural areas and 6 217 in the urban areas The subdivision has got one newly started college (at Dumri, P.-S. Dumraon), one agricultural school at Dumraon, 21 high English schools and 52 middle schools This subdivision has got two municipalities, namely, Buxar and Dumraon

Buxar subdivision has got six thanas with population as follows –

Name of Thanas.	Population.
Buxar Police-Station	85,224
Dumraon Police-Station .. .	1,76,582
Rajpur Police-Station	81,353
Itarhi Police Station	49,725
Nawanagar Police Station	67 532
Brahmpur Police-Station	76,438

According to the census of 1951 there are 1,24,073 males and 1,22,181 females as cultivators of land wholly or mainly owned and their dependents, 41,632 males and 40,658 females as cultivators of land wholly or mainly un-owned and their dependents, 53,648 males and 56,25[illegible] females as cultivating labourers and their dependents, 2,356 males and 2,674 females as non-cultivating owners of land, agricultural rent receivers and their dependents. Persons (including dependents) who derive their principal means of livelihood from

other than agriculture are 10,901 males and 10,364 females from production other than cultivation, 14,839 males and 14,083 females from commerce, 2,575 males and 2,379 females from transport and 20,495 males and 17,638 females from other services and miscellaneous sources. These figures show that the main occupation of the people of this subdivision is agriculture. This is obvious as due to the Sone-irrigation canal system, agriculture plays an important role in the economic life of the people here. Next to agriculture comes commerce. The main commerce is export of foodgrains. This subdivision as well as the entire district supplies foodgrains, namely, paddy, *khesari, masoor,* gram, etc. to Ghazipur and Ballia districts in Uttar Pradesh, Saran district, etc. The other commodity exported is fish, which is available mainly in the Ganga and to a certain extent in the Karmanasa river. There are very few industries in this subdivision The only industry is the milling of rice in the mills, which entirely depends on the incidence of agriculture Besides this, there are one Lantern Factory and one Cold Storage at Dumraon There are 11 rice, flour and *dal* mills in this subdivision giving employment to 243 persons There is one hosiery mill at Buxar but it is not functioning. One paper factory is going to be set up at Dumraon.

A large number of females, who are shown as earning their living by transport are really dependent on the males who earn their living by means of transport. The principal means of transport in this subdivision are boats and bullock carts

Agriculture is the main occupation of the bulk of population Now the subdivision has got a network of electric propelled tube-wells regularly fed with water from the tube-wells.

Some statistics of cattle may be interesting. According to 1951 Livestock Census there are 65,043 working bullocks and 44,973 cows in the rural areas of Buxar subdivision while in the urban areas 1,059 bullocks and 1,565 cows. Horses and ponies number 1,762 in the rural and 141 in the urban areas. The Hariana Cattle Farm at Dumraon is a national asset Bulls within 10 miles of Dumraon are being castrated and artificial insemination is being offered from this cattle farm The farm has an excellent piggery and goat-farm besides a large number of breeding bulls and buffaloes of very superior type and Hariana cows

The Community Development Blocks at Buxar, Dumraon, Simri, etc, have been described elsewhere

The soil of the subdivision is very fertile due to rich alluvial deposits made by the Ganga annually The main crops are paddy, wheat, gram, maize, *rahar, masoor* and *khesari*. The pressure on land is acute and the people of the Subdivision are well known for a craze for litigation, arising mainly as a result of land dispute,

The *diara* disputes are a problem. The mid-stream boundary between Ballia district in U P and Shahabad constantly changes and as the land laws are different in the two areas causes a lot of trouble The matter is being investigated.

The administrative set-up consists of a Subdivisional Officer, who is a first class Magistrate directly subordinate to the District Magistrate His staff consists of several Deputy Magistrates and Sub-Deputy Collectors His staff for the revenue purposes are a Deputy Collector incharge of Land Reforms and Development work and Circle Officers and *Anchal Adhikaries* There is a Deputy Superintendent of Police who is incharge of the Police administration of the subdivision under the direct control of the Superintendent of Police and the District Magistrate For civil administration there are a number of Judicial Officers posted at Buxar. The incidence of litigation both, civil and criminal, is on the decline with the functioning of the *gram panchayats* under the Gram Panchayat Act, 1947, and the promulgation of the Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1951 There is a subdivisional hospital at Buxar under a Civil Assistant Surgeon.

The Central Jail at Buxar, one mile towards west of Buxar town is one of the biggest jails in the State It has been in existence since 1851 and the present capacity is 1,022 prisoners There is no provision for female prisoners in this jail The jail industries consist of the manufacture of carpets, durries, uniforms for orderlies and rural police, tents etc The Buxar Central Jail has a primary school for the children of the jail staff and a library for the use of the warders

Buxar has got a number of important villages, namely, Ahiraouli, Bhojpur, Brahmpur, Chausa, etc They have been separately covered

Melas *and fairs in Buxar subdivision.*

BUXAR TOWN – Buxar town and the northern portions of Buxar subdivision situate on the bank of the Ganga On account of this geographical factor, a large number of people gather at Buxar on various occasions for *puja* and bathe in the river which is held sacred by the Hindus Rural people also assemble at important places to purchase and sell cattle required for agricultural operations. *Melas* and fairs may be divided into two heads, namely, religious *melas* and secondly *melas* which fall under the category of cattle fairs

At Buxar town alone as many as four religious *melas* are held at various periods of the year The biggest, undoubtedly, is the *Makar Sankranti Mela* which is held on the 18th day of solemn month of *Push*, corresponding approximately to the 14th January of each year On this day the sun enters the sidereal of zodiac.

This *mela* is also popularly known as *Khichari mela*. Roughly 40 to 50 thousand men, women and children, assemble in the town, camp there at several places and bathe in the Ganga at the famous Ramrekha Ghat. The bathing in the Ganga usually continues for three days. A large number of shopkeepers and businessmen flock to Buxar town on this occasion and numerous stalls and shops are set up in and around the Ramrekha Ghat. Particular mention may be made of timber goods like cots, door planks, boxes of all designs, ploughing implements and wooden wheels of bullock carts. A number of carnivals, *nowtanki* parties (shows), dancing parties, etc., congregate and provide recreation to visitors and pilgrims. The nickname of *khichari* is derived from the fact that visitors and pilgrims partake of rice and *dal* in mixed up quantities yielding to what is popularly called *Khichari*. In the last week of January or the first week of February another *mela* called *'Muni Amawas'* or *Maghi Amawas* is held at Buxar which has a wide religious appeal. As many as 30 to 40 thousand persons visit this *mela*. It has a special significance in view of the fact that pilgrims attend it on returning from Pashupati Nath temple at Kathmandu of Nepal or Bishwanath temple of Kashi (Varanasi). The pilgrims carry sacred water from the above illustrious places for worship of Lord Shiva. The *mela* is held on the final day of the fortnight in the month of *Magh*.

A third religious *mela* is held at Buxar which is known as *Chaiti Sankranti*. It also bears other names, viz. Satuan *mela* and *Chaiti Sankranti*. It is held in the month of March. It is also a predominantly religious gathering and roughly 20 to 30 thousand men and women attend it. The fourth *mela* held at this place is known as Panch Kosi. It is a general *mela* with no religious importance. It is held in the month of *Asin* corresponding to the month of October. Here people assemble in a light-hearted and joyous mood and are inclined to have recreation and amusement. Visitors prepare what is popularly known as *Litti Bhanta* for their meals. This *Litti Bhanta* is a special item of food in the district of Shahabad. The *Litti Bhanta* consists of wheat flour, *Satua* (powder of gram), *ghee*, various spices like *jawain*, *mangrail*, garlic, red pepper, mustard oil, salt, ginger, etc.

Two religious fairs are also held at Brahampur an important thana in this subdivision. The first fair is held in the month of *Falgun* on *Maha Shivratri* day. This *mela* is a religious-*cum*-cattle fair. Roughly as many as 70 to 80 thousand people assemble on this occasion and many of them perform *puja* and worship Lord Shiva in the famous local temple. This provides the greatest assemblage of persons in Brahampur thana. The second *mela* of religious importance is held in *Baisakh Shivratri* corresponding to the month of May. It is held with the same purpose, i.e., offering of *puja* and worship of Lord Shiva. The gathering is limited. There are three cattle fairs which are held in this subdivision and are

exclusively meant for sale and purchase of different kinds of cattle. The biggest cattle fair is held at Buxar on the *Ram Nawami* day in the month of March on the eastern outskirt of Buxar town on the main Arrah-Buxar Road. Several thousand bullocks and cows are brought from various adjacent and distant places like Ballia, Ghazipur, etc. Horses and even elephants were previously brought to this fair for sale. Elephants are now practically scarce but horses are still brought to this cattle mart. This *mela* lasts for a week or 10 days. The second cattle fair is held at Kothi on the eastern fringe of the town on the *Ganga Dashara* day in *Jeth* corresponding to the month of June. Bullocks, cows and buffaloes are brought to this fair though in limited scale. People numbering 40 to 50 thousand assemble on this occasion. The third cattle *mela* is held at village Niazipur in Dumraon police-station on *Kartick Purnima* day. As many as 50,000 people assemble and brisk sale and purchase of cattle take place.

Shikar facilities.—Although there is no forest or jungle in this subdivision yet the *diaras* offer an opportunity for Shikar. In Umarpur Diara, Beasi Diara, Sheopur Diara, etc., of this Subdivision spotted deer and black buck are found in large numbers. Besides, winter birds, and particularly, various kinds of ducks flock in the Ganga in thousands during the winter. They come from the Himalayan regions and stay here for a short time from November to March, before they leave for colder regions. There is also a *dah* (tank) in Bhojpur where also these birds come during the winter. A scheme has been undertaken by the Irrigation Department for reclamation of the *dah* for draining out water into the Ganga. The seasonal incidence of avi-fauna population at this place will end when the scheme is completed.

Diara areas are only accessible by means of jeep or *tamtam* as there are no metalled roads. The approach is therefore, rather difficult except by jeep or *tamtam*. Umarpur Diara is seven miles from Buxar. Beasi Diara is about 10 miles from Dumraon. Sheopur Diara lies partly in Dumraon police-station and partly in Brahmpur police-station and is about 12 miles from Dumraon.

BUXAR TOWN.—An old town situated on the bank of Ganga river is the administrative headquarters of Buxar subdivision. It has an area of 4.0 square miles with 4,163 households. The total population of the town according to 1961 census was 23,068, i.e., 12,353 males and 10,715 females.

Regarding Buxar town the *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), mentions as follows:—

"Headquarters town of the subdivision of the same name situated on the north-bank of the Ganges in 25°34′N and 83°58′E. The population in 1921 was 10,098. The population has been steadily declining since 1881 when it was 16,498. Buxar, with other

riverside marts, has suffered from the changes in methods of transport which have followed the development of the Bengal and North-Western Railway* in the districts north of Ganges, and from the tendency to make a distributing centre of each small railway station, rather than to bring goods into the old market town and to re-book them from there. Buxar has a station on the East Indian Railway†, 411 miles from Calcutta; and there is here a considerable railway settlement. There are 2,782 rate-payers‡ in the municipality, which was constituted in 1869; and the municipal board consists of ten members of whom eight are elected The central jail is the largest in the province.

"Buxar is said to have been the home of many of the authors of the Vedic hymns and to have been called originally *Vedagarbha*, i e., the womb or origin of the Vedas. Local tradition derives the name of the town from a tank near the temple of Gaurisankar which was originally called *aghsar* or effacer of sin, but in course of time came to be called *baghsar* The story runs that a *rishi* or sage, called Bedsira, having transformed himself into a tiger to frighten the *rishi* Durvasa of whom he was jealous, was doomed by the latter to retain that form for ever He was restored to his original shape by bathing in the holy tank of *aghsar* and then worshipping Gaurisankar, and in commemoration of this event the spot was called *Vyaghrasar* or *Baghsar*, i e, the tiger tank. Buxar is an old Brahmanical site and various parts of it have ancient names such as Rameswar, Viswa-mitra-ka asram and Parasu Rama, but it has few remains of archaeological interest The most notable temple in the town is that of Rameswar Nath Mahadeo to which pilgrims resort from distant places

"Buxar is famous as the scene of the defeat, on October the 23rd in 1764, of Mir Kasim and the Nawab-Wazir of Oudh, Shuja-ud-daula. In this action Major Munro had 857 Europeans, 5,297 sepoys and 918 Mughal horse, making a total force of 7,072 while the number of guns on the field was twenty-eight The combined force of the enemy ten times outnumbered that of Major Munro, among them being the disciplined battalions of Somru and Madoc, with field pieces worked by Europeans, the powerful batteries of Shuja-ud-daula's artillery and the splendid Durani horse, with a number of Europeans of other than British nationality, who had deserted the Company's army in the mutinies at Sawath and on the Karamnasa . .. The enemy's loss was very great, two thousand lay dead on the field, and more were wounded while double that number must have perished in the Thornala and during the pursuit. Major Munro's losses were 39 Europeans and 250 Indians

* Now Eastern Railway

† *Ibid*

‡ Now (1964) 4,163 rate-payers

killed, and 62 Europeans and 435 Indians wounded.......... Until recently the battle-field was marked by no monument; but a memorial pillar has now been placed on the site..

"The fort of Buxar* standing on a high bluff above the Ganges and effectually commanding the reaches of that river, was long a position of considerable strategic importance After this victory it passed into the hands of the British, and the land round it which now forms the fort bazar estate was acquired for military purposes in 1770 Both remained under the Commandant of the fort until 1840, when the bazar estate was handed over to the civil authorities, but the fort land remained under the military authorities as a cantonment until 1842, when it was handed over to the Stud Department In 1873 the Stud Department was directed to give up farming and purchase grain and forage in the open market, and by 1875 all the land held by it had been handed over to the civil authorities, since that year it has been managed as Government estate" †

Since James wrote Buxar has had a change.

The town is connected with rail, road and waterways A large number of buses connect Arrah, Bhabua Sasaram etc Daily about 1,000 persons come to and go out from the town Through waterways one can easily reach Ballia in Uttar Pradesh. At Ram Rekha Ghat in the town there is a pontoon bridge connecting Ram Rekha *ghat* with Ujjain *ghat* in Ballia district in Uttar Pradesh The bridge is under the control of Uttar Pradesh Government The bridge functions from October to June every year The average daily traffic on this bridge is about 1,000 passengers, 25 bullock carts and 12 cars‡ The bridge is about 3½ furlongs long and is well maintained Between June and September the crossing is made by a steamer launch provided by the Uttar Pradesh Government

The town has got one small landing ground maintained by the Public Works Department The air strips are used by the smaller planes private or State The landing ground is serviceable only in the fair weather.

The main roads in the town are metalled. The Buxar Municipality maintains about 3½ miles of *pucca roads* within the town The vehicles within the town are buses, rickshaws, cycles *tamtams* and bullock carts There are private cars and taxis in the town

* At present (1964) the Subdivisional Magistrate of the Buxar Subdivision has his residence within the fort

† District Gazetteer of *Shahabad*, by J. F. W. James (1924) pages 162—164

‡ On observation in March, 1964.

The town has one dak bungalow, two inspection bungalows and one *dharamshala*. There are some cheap roadside eating houses, tea shops, and a few hotels of poor standard for temporary accommodation.

Being the headquarters of the subdivision, a large number of Government offices are located here They include the offices of the Subdivisional Officer, Executive Engineer, Irrigation, Subdivisional Officer, Public Works Department, Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Subdivisional Animal Husbandry Officer, Subdivisional Agricultural Officer, Project Executive Officer (Package), Deputy Superintendent of Police and the Superintendent of Central Jail, etc.

The town has one junior basic school, nine primary schools including two for girls, one middle school for girls, three higher secondary schools including one for girls with 1,010 students and 49 teachers and one college with about 400 students and 15 lecturers

Besides, the town has one senior residential school with about 50 students and two teachers. The students are provided free lodge and boarding There is one medical attendant to look after the health of the students The entire expenditure is borne by the State Government The residential school at Buxar gets Rs 78,282 annually In order to solve the problem of accommodation of the students of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes, the State Government have started one hostel in the town which accommodates 13 students.

The town has four libraries On the average about 35 persons daily visit each of the libraries The town has one town club where indoor games are played and four parks for the children, one managed by the municipality and one by the Irrigation Department.

The sanitation of the town is poor It is supervised by a Sanitary Inspector. A conservancy staff of 100 headed by a *Jamadar* is maintained who clean about 2,407 private and public latrines.

For water-supply the town has a number of surface and tube-wells The Buxar Municipality has given about 100 tube-wells in the town. The town is electrified and about 2,109 houses have been electrified. Electricity is not much used for small industries.

The town has one subdivisional hospital maintained by the State Government with three doctors including one female doctor and other staff. The table below supplied by the Subdivisional

These finds have been referred to in the "Journal of Numismatic Society of India" Volume 12, Column 2, page no. 121 by Dr. A. S Altekar.

Some of the female figures found by Prof. Banerjee Shastri have typical head gear of pre-Mauryan times. Shastri's excavations were more of reconnoitering and surface exploratory type

It may be mentioned that the site was the traditional seat of *Taraka*, the female Asura chief's stronghold in the immediate vicinity of Vishwamitra's hermitage still known as *Caritravana* Both to the east and the west are the various sites of earliest Pouranik and Asura antiquities.

Recent excavations.—In 1929 the Government of India had decided to undertake more extensive excavations in Buxar town. The idea was, however, dropped for some reasons or other.

There was, it appears, some local opposition to the excavations made by Banerjee Shastri and later by the Government of India and the excavation had to be stopped.

Recently in 1964 the State Government of Bihar partially financed by the Central Government had taken up excavation at two points close to the site where Banerjee Shastri had excavated in 1927. The work commenced in January, 1964 Excavation is now proceeding

At the first site a gold amulet, 18 silver coins in a small earthen pot, terracottas, and sprinklers have been found. The silver coins bear *hijri* years of the Muslim period. On two of the coins the first *kalma* of the Muslims (*La-Allahillala, Muhammadar Rasol Lallah*) are inscribed Some of the *hijri* years of the coins are of 1025, 1031, 1035, 1058, 1290 and 1304

In the first trench a portion of a massive wall which is taken to be of Kushan age has also been found and it is clear that it is a portion of a running wall which has not yet been fully dug out.

In the second trench three sub-structures of the Muslim period have been discovered Besides, glazed potteries of the Muslim period have been found in a large number from the excavation A big storage jar of medieval period has also been notice.

There is a somewhat local agitation against the excavations. It is held by a portion of the local population that the excavations on the bank of the Ganga river will encourage erosion and high floods will affect Buxar town The matter is being investigated by the Public Works Department, Bihar, Patna.

The excavations, if continued, are expected to yield rich results and will probably supply important archaeological evidence of the ancient period in India *

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* It is understood the excavations had to be called off.

CHAINPUR.—Regarding Chainpur the last *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) mentions as follows:—

"A village seven miles west of Bhabhua. Population (1921) 2,545. Here stands the great mausoleum of Bakhtiyar Khan, a noble monument of Sher Shah's time. Local tradition asserts that his son married a daughter of Sher Shah, but there is no record of what part Bakhtiyar Khan played in the history of the Suri kings; he must have been a personage of rank, and Chainpur was probably his *jagir*. There can be no question, however, that the tomb belongs to the Suri time, as it is the exact counterpart of the tomb of Hasan Khan Sur at Sasaram, but of larger dimensions and with a small cupola instead of a pinnacle on its dome Government has recently undertaken the conservation of the structure and has executed repairs necessary to preserve it from decay Similar tombs of a smaller size are found in the neighbourhood, but call for no special notice. The Jama Masjid (1668-69) is a building of no special historic or architectural interest, but is regarded with great veneration by the Muhammadans of the place. The fort at Chainpur is surrounded by a moat and defended by a stone rampart flanked with bastions, from the style of the principal gate, which is the only portion now intact, it is evident that it is a building of the time of Sher Shah or Akbar. Inside the ramparts there is a small Hindu shrine, where a piece of stone is worshipped under the title of Harshu Brahm In his Introduction to the Popular Religion and Folklore of Northern India, Mr. Crooke says that Harshu Panre or Harshu Baba was a Kanaujia Brahman, the family priest of Raja Salivahana of Chainpur. The Raja had two queens, one of whom was jealous of the priest's influence About this time (1527 A D), the priest built a fine house close to the palace, and one night the Raja and Rani saw a light from its upper storey gleaming aloft in the sky The Rani hinted to the Raja that the priest had designs of ousting the monarch from his kingdom, so the Raja had his house demolished and resumed the lands which had been conferred on him The enraged Brahman did *dharna*, in other words, fasted till he died at the palace gate When they took his body for cremation to Benares, they found Harshu standing in his wooden sandals on the steps of the burning *ghat*. He informed them that he had become a Brahm or Brahman ghost. The Raja's family was destroyed except one daughter who had been kind to the Brahman in his misfortunes, and through her the family continues to this day. Harshu is now worshipped with the fire sacrifice and offerings of Brahmanical cords and sweetmeats. If any one obtains his desire through his intercession, he offers a golden Brahmanical cord and a silken waist-string: and feeds Brahmans in his name. It is said that this worship is spreading over Northern India and promises to become widely diffused (*See* Report, A.S.I., for 1902-03)".*

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), pages 164-165.

According to the Census of 1951 its total population was 3,515 persons, i.e., 1,783 males and 1,732 females with 537 occupied houses. The total number of literate persons was 534, i.e., 485 males and 49 females*. The village is the headquarters of the Block and the police station.

The village has a post office, lower primary schools—one for boys and the other for girls, one upper primary school and a *Gram Panchayat*.

The village is a small trading centre. It deals mainly in paddy, rice, gram, *khesari* and *masoor* which are obtained from local supplies and consumed within the district.

Melas are held twice a year on the *Navratra* day. People come here from different parts of the country. It is said that the females who possessed of evil spirits come here for deliverance by the grace of Harshu Brahm Babaji.

Chainpur also lives more in its past glory which has, however, been kept up by the Harshu Brahm cult.

Regarding more details of the Antiquarian Remains at Chainpur, a reference may be made to Dr. D. R. Patil's recently published book on "The Antiquarian Remains of Bihar"†. Bakhtiyar Khan's tomb- "About a mile west of Chainpur is a fine saracenic structure which resembles in many respects to tomb of Hassan Khan Sur at Sasaram. There is another tomb nearby which was built by Daud Khan, son of Bakhtiyar Khan for himself when Daud Khan died and was buried there. This tomb has no covering dome. Jama Masjid of this village is greatly respected by the local muslims. This mosque has an inscription bearing the date of 1668–69 A.D."

CHAND.—A village in Bhabua subdivision on the Bhabua-Chand bus route. It is the headquarters of the police-station of the same name. It deals mainly in *gur* and *ghee* which are obtained from local supply and consumed within the district.

CHARGOTIA.—Chargotia within Adhaura P.-S. in Bhabua subdivision is an excellent beauty spot. There is a waterfall here in the midst of a magnificent scenery. There is a pointed rock, 5 to 6 ft. in length which is well-known for the simple minded hilly people taking the oath of their innocence. It was a place for trial by ordeal.

CHAUSA.—Regarding the village the *Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) mentions :—

Village in the Buxar subdivision, situated on the East Indian Railway‡ close to the east bank of the Karamnasa river four miles

* *District Census Hand Book of Shahabad* (1951), page 290.

† *The Antiquarian Remains in Bihar* by Dr. D. R. Patil (Patna), 1963, pages [illegible].

‡ Now Eastern Railway.

west of Buxar town in 25°31′N.; and 83°54′E. Population (1921) 1,896. Chausa is famous in Indian history as the scene of the defeat of Humayun by Sher Shah in June of 1539. On learning that Humayun was leading his army back from Gaur, Sher Shah collected his Afghan troops, and having thrown up entrenchments on the banks of the Karamnasa river, he opposed the further progress of the Emperor. For nearly three months, the Mughal army remained in this situation, in a state of inactivity, neither daring to storm the Afghan entrenchments nor possessing the means of crossing the Ganges. Thus cut off from Delhi, the Emperor readily accepted the overtures of peace made by Sher Shah A treaty was drawn out, by which Humayun resigned to Sher Shah the sovereignty of Bihar and Bengal, on condition that he would no longer oppose his march nor assist his enemies This treaty having been duly ratified, much rejoicing took place in both camps, but especially among the Mughals, who exhausted by continual alarms, and exposed to constant rain and excessive fatigue, were anxious to return to their homes. But on that night after the treacherous Afghan had sworn by the Koran not to injure the Mughals, he suddenly attacked their camp, and took them completely by surprise Resistance was hopeless, and the whole army fled in confusion Humayun himself escaped by swimming across the Ganges on an inflated *massak* or water-bag, which a friendly water-carrier provided, but eight thousand soldiers perished in attempting to follow him. The water-carrier, it is said, was afterwards rewarded for his loyalty by being permitted to sit for half a day on the Emperor's throne with absolute power".*

There has been since a good deal of change in the village. On a personal enquiry into the village no trace was found of the family of the *massak* at the village

The village is in the Buxar Community Development Block. Since the functioning of the block, the villagers have been benefited to some extent by the construction of one boring, three tube-wells and five irrigational wells, etc., through the block.

The area of the village is 750 40 acres with 376 occupied houses The population of the village according to 1961 census as supplied by the Village Level Worker is 3,204 (1,645 males and 1,559 females) and the total number of the literate persons is 387 (349 males and 38 females). The incidence of literacy seems to be very low. On an enquiry from the villagers it was ascertained that mostly the people of this village are engaged in cultivation and miscellaneous services. Details of 1961 census figures are not yet published

The village is electrified since 1960 and about 80 houses are electrified. Very little use is made of electricity for industrial purposes.

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* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad*, 1924, by J. F. W. James, pages 185-186.

The village has two primary schools with 125 students and three teachers, one junior basic school with 175 students and six teachers, one high school with 90 students and six teachers. The village has one library with about 400 books on different subjects. On the average about 15 persons visit the library daily in the evening During 1963-64, the Education Department gave 91 books to the library in shape of book grant It may be noted that a Social Education Centre was running in the village but since 1962 the scheme to run the centre has been stopped all over the State.

The village has a health centre with one Auxiliary Health Worker and one trained *Dai*. The Medical Officer of the Buxar block visits the centre twice a week, i e, on Thursdays and Saturdays

The village has one Veterinary Dispensary (Class I) with one Veterinary Doctor and one Livestock Supervisor. On the average about 20 cattle are treated in the dispensary daily.

The village has insanitary conditions Cattle are kept near the huts, but in most cases cattle and goats share the huts with the people Scarcely there is any regular road inside the village. The lanes and pathways become muddy or even water-logged in the rainy season No organised conservancy service exists in the village. The lanes and pathways are seldom swept. The refuge and house sweeping are deposited in or outside the huts There are no lavatories except that some of the fairly well-to-do inhabitants use pit privies which are known as '*Sandas*'

The village has a retail market centre for trade purpose. There is one *hat* which is held on every Sunday and Thursday. The villagers of other villages also come to this village to sell or barter their wares and buy whatever they require for the ensuing week The chief modes of conveyance for carrying goods in the *hat* are bullock carts, pack bullocks and head-load. The village has two Fair Price Shops which supply sugar and wheat to the villagers As the village is situated on the Buxar-Chausa road, the traders do not feel any trouble in carrying commodities to the village *hat*, because two buses up and down pass through this village daily The village has a railway station of the Eastern Railway of the same name. On the average about 50 passengers go out and come to the village daily by the buses and the trains

On enquiry from the villagers it was ascertained that about 20 per cent. of the villagers get employment in the rice mills located at Chausa and Buxar towns Some of them are employed in Hatia Project, Ranchi

The village has a sub-post office with one Post Master and two Postmen On the average about 10 money orders of the value of Rs. 800 are received daily and 15 money orders of the value of

Rs. 1,300 are sent daily to different places. The village has a public call office and on the average about ten public calls are sent and received daily.

The village has a *gram panchayat, natak* and *kirtan mandali*, a Shiva temple, two rice, flour and oil mills, two multi-purpose co-operative societies, etc.

CHENARI.—A village 24 miles south-west of Sasaram It is at a distance of 12 miles from the Grand Trunk Road. From Kudra, a metalled road runs to the village It has a police-station, a post office, a Block office, and a dispensary.

The total population of the village according to the census of 1961 as given by the Block office is 2,223 persons, i.e., 1,141 males and 1,082 females with 394 households.

The village has a mixed population consisting of agriculturists, businessmen and service holders The main castes are Brahman, Rajput, Kayasth, Paithan, Dhanuk, etc.

The village has a high school which was established in 1947 There are 700 students and 18 teachers There is also a Sanskrit High School in the village There are 80 students and three teachers. Besides there are two upper primary and two middle schools in the village In all schools there is co-education

The village is electrified. There is a statutory *Gram Panchayat* in the village.

The household industries in the village are shoe-making, *biri* and rope making A bi-weekly *hat* is held on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Chenari market and the bi-weekly *hats* clear a lot of commodities brought from the villages of Kaimur Plateau, like *ghee*, jungle fruits, timber, etc There are four *Kirtan Mandalies* in the village.

There are two libraries in the village namely, Prem Pustakalaya and Azad Hind Urdu Library. The Prem Pustakalaya was established in 1946 and the Azad Library in 1960. There are 1,000 and 800 books respectively in these libraries

CHHATANWAR.—A village in Buxar subdivision at a distance of about six miles from Tundiganj railway station of Eastern Railway.

The total population according to the census of 1951 was 1,790, i.e., 905 males and 885 females with 130 occupied houses. The total number of literate persons was 157, i.e., 155 males and two females Its area is 1,956 acres. According to the 1951 census the total number of cultivators of land who wholly or mainly owned and

their dependants was 670 and the number of cultivating labourers and their dependants was 475. Besides this about 235 persons were employed in commerce and the source of income of 410 persons was other services and miscellaneous sources.*

The main castes of the village are Brahman, Rajput, Kurmi, Goala, etc. The main occupation of the village is agriculture.

The village has a lower primary school, an upper primary school, and a middle school. There is also a statutory *gram panchayat* in the village.

CHUTIA.—Chutia is the name of a place under village Tiura-Pipradih which falls within the jurisdiction of Nauhatta Block. The place was uninhabited prior to the beginning of the stone-cutting work. The work of stone-cutting was started in 195[illegible] by Parsava Properties limited, Pipradih and about 200 houses had to be constructed for accommodating the offices, staff, labourers and also for giving some of the houses to the shop-keepers on rent. With the opening of stone-cutting work shops began to be opened and at present there are about 30 shops.

It is a developing area. About 2,000 labourers work here daily. The labour force is composed of both tribal and non-tribal population. Tribal labourers are Cheros, Kharwars and Oraons. The tribals of neighbouring areas as well as from Palamau district are employed here. Besides the tribals labourers belonging to the Scheduled Castes and other Backward Classes form about 60 per cent of the total labour force. The daily wage of a worker is Rs. 3.90 nP. The work of stone-cutting remains in operation for the whole year. Some of the labourers who come from distant places have been provided with quarters. A large part of the labourers come from the neighbouring villages.

Both males and females are employed and the female folk constitutes about 20 per cent of the total labour force. For the welfare of the female workers a creche has been provided where average daily attendance of children is 26.

With a view to giving medical help, a hospital with six beds (four for males and two for females, was also started by the Company. The staff of the hospital consists of two doctors, four compounders and one dresser. The average daily attendance of patients in the hospital is 2[illegible]0.

There is also a library containing 500 books for the labourers and the staff. Daily news papers and periodicals are also subscribed. The library is also equipped with a radio.

* District Census Hand Book of Shahabad 1951, pages 176-177.

For the recreation of the staff there is also a club. A canteen is also functioning here which caters the need of the labour and staff.

A middle school has also been started by the Parsava Properties Limited where the children of the labourers receive free education. At present (January, 1964) there are 130 students and five teachers.

There is a Mazdoor Union Sangh affiliated to Rohtas Quarries Mazdoor Sangh, Rohtas. All the labourers (two thousands in number) are members of the Sangh and every member pays eight annas per month as subscription.

There is a post office and a railway station. The forest road from Akbarpur to Mirzapur passes through Chutia and through it Nauhatta is connected

The average production of stone-cutting per month is 50,000 tons which is transported to Dehri by railway.

DAHAR.—This village is situated on the Kaimur hills at a distance of 12 miles from Adhaura, the block headquarters, and 24 miles to the south from Bhabua, the subdivisional headquarters It has an area of 2,626 acres, 107 households and a population of approximately 453 persons.

The village has a lower primary school It is the headquarters of the *gram panchayats* The community hall co-operative godown and two rural houses for Adivasis are still under construction. A drinking well existed before the establishment of the block and was in a dilapidated condition It has since been repaired by the block. Another well for drinking purposes is being excavated This is an Adivasi village.

So far as communication is concerned, it has no proper road. Two miles of *katcha* road has been constructed by the local *gram panchayat* with the aid of the block authorities which connects the village with Bhabua-Adhaura Road

DALIPPUR.—A village in the Sadar subdivision of Shahabad district situated at a distance of seven miles south-west from Jagdishpur It is under the jurisdiction of Jagdishpur police-station and Jagdishpur Block.

Its population according to the census of 1951 was 4,492, i e 2,284 males and 2,208 females The total number of literate persons was 756, i e., 688 males and 68 females* According to the provisional census of 1961 its total population is 5,232, i e , 2,575 males and 2,657 females with 943 households The total number of literate persons is 988, i e , 807 males and 181 females. The final village-wise figures of 1961 census are not yet published

* *District Census Hand-Book of Shahabad*, 1951, page 142.

The village has a great historical past It was settled by Dalip Singh, a Ujjainia Chief He was one of the ancestors of Babu Kunwar Singh Two villages namely, Jagdishpur and Dalippur were held rent free by the Jagdishpur family for long But the two *Mouzas* of Dalippur and Jagdishpur which were so long held *Nankar* (rent free) were settled on rent with Babu Bhoop Narayan Singh in 1789 90 on a *zama* of Rs 850*.

On the death of Babu Umraon Singh, Bhoop Narayan, grandson of Babu Gajraj Singh, confiscated the village of Dalippur and its dependencies together with the income from the Jagdishpur jungles, which had been decreed to Umrao Singh Discontented at this, Sahebzada Singh, son of Umrao Singh, left Jagdishpur, leaving his two elder sons, Kunwar Singh and Dayal Singh with one Umrao Sahu, a money lender of Dalippur, and vowed never to return to Jagdishpur in the life time of Bhoop Narayan* Babu Kunwar Singh and Babu Dayal Singh were thus brought up at Dalippur till they were of the age of 18 and 16 years respectively They went back to Jagdishpur when their father Babu Sahebzada Singh came back to Jagdishpur to claim his estate The family remained at Jagdishpur during the regime of Babu Sahebzada Singh.

On the death of Sahebzada Singh and the litigation with his elder brother, Dayal Singh along with his mother, Panchratan Kunwar and the younger brothers Rajpati Singh and Amar Singh, left the ancestral residence at Jagdishpur and moved over to Dalippur Dayal Singh died before the Movement of 1857–59 The house at Dalippur which gave shelter to the female members of the family during the Movement and which was attacked by Eyre, is still extant and bears the marks of his vandalism in damaging and burning it†

While at Dalippur, Babu Rajpati Singh and Amar Singh built *Garhs* at Kakila and at Mathaha respectively After remaining at Dalippur for several years they shifted to newly built *Garhs*

During the Mutiny of 1857 Reet Bhajan Singh (Ripu Bhajan Singh), Guman Bhajan Singh and Aribhajan Singh were the masters of Dalippur who were the sons of Babu Dayal Singh, second brother of Babu Kunwar Singh

The *garh* of Dalippur was attacked and burnt by Lt Jackson under the command of Vincent Eyre The descendants of Dayal Singh are still living in this *Garh*.

Dalippur was again made a stronghold by the revolutionaries during the period of Amar Singh On hearing in the morning of

* *Biography of Kunwar Singh and Amar Singh*, by K K Dutta, published by K P Jayaswal Research Institute, Patna (1957), page 12

† *Ibid*, page 25

the 11th May that the party of insurgents was strongly entrenched at Dalippur and also at Jitawa Sir E. Lugard marched in that direction and a serious battle was fought near the *garh*.

The village has three lower primary schools, two upper primary, one *madrasa* and one high school. There are about 500 students in the high school There is also an *Adarsh Pustakalaya* in the village. It was established in 1950 and there are about 300 books on different subjects There is also a dance, drama and music society in the village

The village is electrified and there are about five flour mills and one post office There are about 20 grain shops, one Ganja shop, one liquor shop and one toddy shop in the village

The village has a mixed population consisting of ex zamindars, agriculturists, businessmen and service holders, but the agriculturists predominate The main castes are Rajput, Brahman, Kurmi, Teli, Bania, Goala, Mohammadan, Kahar, etc The village has a number of aristocratic Rajput families related to Kunwar Singh.

There is a *Gram Panchayat* in the village The houses are mostly mud-built with straw roofing. There are about eight temples including *Thakurbaris, Devi Asthans* and mosques.

This village now remains more in the past and has not been progressing as it should Many of the old aristocratic families are practically at their last lap

DARANGAR.—This village is at a distance of seven miles from Nauhatta, the Block headquarters Its population according to 1961 census, as supplied by the Block office is 3,012, i e, 1,512 males and 1,500 females There are 698 occupied houses.

This village has an upper primary school in which there are 300 students and seven teachers There is a library named Gyan Pitha which was established in 1951. There are 699 books in it. The Block constructed 27 minor irrigation wells, 70 culverts, one building for upper primary school and repaired four drinking wells.

The main produces of the village are paddy, maize, sugarcane and groundnut

The village is electrified and there is one flour mill There is a *Gram Panchayat* in the village

The Block office distributed three sewing machines and there are three sugarcane co-operative societies in the village.

DEHRI TOWN INCLUDING DALMIANAGAR.—Dehri in the Sasaram subdivision is situated on the west bank of the river Sone at 24°55′N and 84°11′E. Dehri-Dalmianagar may be considered as a composite town divided by the Eastern Railway Line into two parts, viz, Dehri to the south of the railway line and Dalmianagar to its north. The Grand Trunk Road passes through the town.

About Dehri the last *District Gazetter of Shahabad* (1924) mentions:—

"DEHRI.—Village in the Sasaram subdivision, situated on the west bank of the Son, in 24°55′N. and 84°11′E. Population (1921) 3,245. It has a station on the Grand Chord Line of the East Indian* Railway and is a trade centre of some local importance. The Grand Trunk Road here crosses the broad sandy bed of the Son on a stone causeway 2¼ miles long; and just below this the river is spanned by a vast railway bridge. It is made of iron girders laid on stone-built pillars and comprises 93 spans of a hundred feet each, its total length over abutments being 10,052 feet. This bridge is not only the longest in India†, but next to the Tay Bridge (10,527 feet) is believed to be the longest in the world. It was opened in February 1900, exactly three years from the date on which the work was commenced. The chief importance of Dehri is due to the fact that it is the site of the head works of the Son Canals, where the main western canal branches off from the anicut thrown across the main channel of the river. Dehri also contains workshops designed to construct and maintain the various works in stone, wood and iron which are scattered over the canal system. They are substantial stone buildings with iron roofs, and embrace a foundry, saw-mill, blacksmith's shop, fitting shop and a boat-yard‡."

This was the condition prior to 1924. With the passage of time, Dehri-on-Sone grew in importance due to the establishment of a number of industrial undertakings at Dehri and the adjoining area which came to be known as Dalmianagar. What was previously a village was enumerated as a town in the census of 1941** for the first time and has developed into a township with clear indications of further expansion. Large areas in some of the adjoining villages have been acquired and added to Dehri from time to time to the north adjacent to the railway station for the siting of the various industries under the Rohtas Industries group. After a few years of the starting of the industries the area came to be known as Dalmianagar as the Rohtas Industries group are associated with the Dalmia family. There was a move on behalf of the Dalmia Industries to have the name of the railway station changed from Dehri-on-Sone to Dalmianagar. There were objections and the matter was dropped. The Dalmia group of industries (Rohtas Industries) has introduced thousands of population and brought in many amenities.

Government have started a number of offices here such as Block Development Office, Package Office, Public Works Department Offices, Central Excise Offices, Branch of the State Bank of India,

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* Now Eastern Railway.

† The bridge has lost its distinction now to Mahananda bridge in Orissa.

‡ *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), page 166.

** *District Census Hand-Book* (1951), Shahabad, page 8.

Post and Telegraph Offices, Telephone Exchange, establishment of a sub-district of police administration, etc It has been felt that the Grand Trunk Road should have a bridge here over the river Sone, to facilitate road communication direct from Calcutta to Delhi. For this purpose an office of the Public Works Department for the construction of the bridge has been established at Dehri-on-Sone. The work of this road-bridge was started on 5th December, 1962 with a revised estimate of Rs 2,30,72,000 and was completed by the end of 1965 The total length of the bridge is to be 10,044 feet and the width to be 28 feet with two feet of foot-path on each side. There are to be two abutments and 92 pillars, the distance between the consecutive pillars being 108 feet (Centre to Centre) By the completion of this bridge through inter-State traffic will be possible on this road without any diversion *via* Arrah-Sasaram Road. This will help tourism and make Dehri more prominent on the road map of India

As mentioned Dehri-Dalmianagar was for the first time treated as a town in the census of 1941 A Notified Area Committee was formed for Dehri-Dalmianagar under Government notification nos. 207 and 208, dated the 23rd May, 1941 The area of the Notified Area Committee extends over 3.56 square miles and contains 3,613 holdings It is bounded on the north by village Sidhauli on the south by the river Sone and Baslipur, on the east by the river Sone and on the west by village Sakhara The committee has 13 members It functions under the administrative control of the Subdivisional Officer of Sasaram who is its *ex-officio* Chairman.

The town though situated on the bank of the river Sone is at a sufficiently high level to prevent the flood waters of the river from entering it There is an anicut on the Sone from which canals radiate northwards The Sone Canals practically rule the agricultural economy of a large part of the district

According to the census of 1941 the population of the town was 8,281 persons, in 1951 it was 24,496 persons; in 1961 the population was 38,092 persons, a rise of only 55 per cent over the population of 1951 These figures show that the pace of industrialisation which started in 1933 was very rapid during the decade 1941–51, but in the decade 1951–61 the pace of further industrialization has not been so rapid

According to the 1961* Census the total population as already mentioned was 38,092 persons of which 22,723 were males and 15,369 were females Of these the total number of bread-earners was 14,563 persons consisting of 13,902 males and 661 females The total number of workers employed in the industries of the town was 13,506 of whom 13,021 were males and 485 females. The number

* *Census of India* 1961, *Volume IV*, Bihar, Part II-A, General Population Tables, pages 282 and 418-419

of cultivators was 226 out of which 50 were agricultural labourers, 157 maintained themselves through live-stock, fisheries, etc., and 624 were engaged in household industries.

The Notified Area Committee and the factories at Dalmianagar are maintaining 7.73 miles of *pucca* roads in addition to a few *kutcha* roads. The length of the *kutcha* and *pucca* drains is 40,810 feet and 10,322 feet respectively. Some of the roads and drains are in a neglected condition. The committee has provided some wells and tube-wells for water-supply while the factories supply their employees with electricity. The streets are electrified.

The following industries are in existence at Dalmianagar:—Sugar, Cement, Paper and Board, Chemicals, Sulphuric Acid, Alums, Asbestos Cement, Vanaspati, Vulcanised Fibres, and Pulp and Paper. The details of these industries have been given in the chapter on 'Industries'. Besides these there is a Central Engineering Workshop with an electric furnace. There is a power house also which for long supplied power to the State Government to operate tube-wells for irrigation purposes and for domestic uses in the urban areas of Dehri-on-Sone, Sasaram and Aurangabad (Gaya). But now power is taken from Damodar Valley Corporation Power Station causing a decrease in the consumption of electricity from the local power house.

There are two higher secondary schools in the town, one at Dehri and the other at Dalmianagar. There are two girls' high schools, one at Dalmianagar and the other at Dehri and a Government-sponsored technical school. The Labour Welfare Centre at Dalmianagar runs training courses in sewing, embroidery, cutting and tailoring for girls.

There are two libraries with a poor readership, one maintained by the Labour Welfare Centre, Dalmianagar and the other at Dehri maintained by the Notified Area Committee.

There are three hospitals in the town, viz., (*i*) Dehri-on-Sone State Dispensary, (*ii*) The Company's Hospital, and (*iii*) a hospital maintained by the Employees' State Insurance Scheme functioning since March, 1960. The details of the medical services will be found in the chapter on 'Medical and Public Health Services'.

There is one T. B. Hospital privately managed at Dehri and another at village Shankerpur, Jagjivan Sanatorium, about four miles from Dehri. Both of them are liberally helped by the Government.

The daily average of the travelling persons using the Dehri-on-Sone Railway Station is nearly 3,000 and those using the Dehri-Rohtas Light Railway at Dehri and Dehri City Railway Station number about 1,500. Dehri is the headquarters of the Dehri-Rohtas

Light Railway This railway route opens up the quarries and forests and is of increasing importance The demand for goods traffic is far above what the railway can cater as reported

There are 15 bus routes from and through Dehri town. There are 38 bus services plying up and down thus making a total of 76 services The buses were found chronically overloaded and this suggests there could be many more bus services. About 3,000 persons use the buses daily (May, 1964)

In 1963, besides the buses there were 3,012 cycles, 600 cycle-rickshaws and six *tamtams* for passenger traffic and there were 1,425 bullock carts for the carriage of light goods for short distances. For the carriage of heavy goods for long distances, trucks available from outside Dehri are used A large number of carrier trucks pass through Dehri everyday A daily average of some three thousand tonnes of goods arrive at and are despatched from Dehri-on-Sone Railway Station including Dalmianagar siding of the Eastern Railway The turn-over of goods at the Dehri Railway Station of the Dehri-Rohtas Light Railway is on the average 2,600 tonnes per day. Both the stations have a very busy time

The main commodities booked from Dehri-on-Sone Railway Station and Dalmianagar siding of the Eastern Railway are cement and lime to Assam and West Bengal, paper to Bombay, Madras, Madhya Pradesh asbestos products to Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab and Assam, chemical products, etc, to Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal All these commodities along with sugar, hydrogenated oil, etc, are sent to different places throughout Bihar.

The main commodities received are coal from Raniganj and Jharia Coalfields, bamboos and timber from Palamau district (Bihar) sugarcane from the forests and mills of the Shahabad district, gypsum from Rajasthan waste paper from Calcutta, Madhya Pradesh and Madras, laterite from Palamau (Bihar) and Madhya Pradesh, bauxite from Madhya Pradesh, groundnut and til oil, cotton seed oil from Madhya Pradesh, flue dust from Dhanbad (Bihar) and West Bengal, iron and steel goods from Jamshedpur and Burnpur (West Bengal)· machinery from Calcutta; cloth from Bombay, Ahmedabad, Kanpur and Howrah; medicine from Calcutta and Bombay, oil cake from Bhagalpur (Bihar), Kanpur and Allahabad, manures from Sindri and Tatanagar, sabai grass from the Punjab and Purnea and Santal Parganas districts of Bihar, livestock from the Punjab and Calcutta, kerosene oil, diesel oil and mobil oil from Budge Budge and mustard oil from Uttar Pradesh.

There is a four storeyed air-conditioned modern building belonging to Rohtas Industries It serves the purpose of the general office and houses the State Bank of India, the Universal Bank of India

Limited and a Canteen also. A two storeyed building of the Rohtas Industries with beautiful and spacious lawns serves as a guest house. The office buildings of the Rohtas Industries and their other buildings and colony are modern and have the usual amenities.

Dalmianagar has two premier clubs namely the Dalmianagar and the Rohtas Club Besides, there is a Rotary Club also. There are two football clubs in this township, one at Dehri and the other at Dalmianagar.

The companies have provided 1,600 residential houses, two dormitories with 40 rooms each and one dormitory with 56 seats. The residents get water and electricity free. The colony is provided with underground drainage and sewerage system with a treatment plant The foul water of this area is drained into the river Sone. There is one Jain temple in the area.

Extending over an area of 800 acres the township of Dalmianagar is half occupied by the factories, and of the remaining half 60 per cent by residential houses and other buildings and 40 per cent by lawns, parks and playgrounds. There is a network of well-planned concrete roads, drainage and sewerage system

Besides the major industries mentioned above, some small-scale and cottage industries exist in Dehri Dalminagar There are 16 lime works, five repairing workshops two printing presses, one chemical industry (soap manufacture) and one saw mill besides a large number of smaller units in the town

The Labour Welfare Centre at Dalmianagar provides a library, reading room and a sewing class (already dealt with) It provides for indoor and outdoor games It has a training-*cum*-production centre (both for males and females) having a six months' course

Before the sponsoring of the industries the population of Dehri village was very small and it had only petty shops which catered for the needs of the local villagers With the industries the village grew not only in area but also in its population with the result that a large number of shops cropped up Dehri is now a good shopping centre In Dalmianagar there are seven wholesalers 16 retailers, two hullers four oil *ghanis* and 2 *atta chakkies* In Dehri there are eleven wholesalers, 25 retailers, two hullers, six oil *ghanis*, six *atta chakkies*, two cold storage plants and seven cement stockists. In Dalmianagar annually 15,000 quintals of rice and 500 quintals of gram are locally obtained and consumed, 1 800 quintals of local and foreign wheat are also consumed locally, 600 quintals of pulses and 1,000 quintals of mustard oil obtained from Sasaram and local markets are also consumed locally (April, 1964)

At Dehri annually 37,000 quintals of rice obtained locally are exported to Banjari and Rohtas and also locally consumed; 4,000 quintals of gram obtained from Sasaram, Bhabua and Kudra; 7,200

quintals of *khesari* and 4,000 quintals of *masoor* obtained from Gaya, Mohania, Kudra and Bhabua, 4,000 quintals of pulses obtained from Gaya, Kanpur, Varanasi and Sasaram are consumed locally. A local supply of 57,000 quintals of potato is despatched to Asansol, Jamshedpur and Burdwan. Besides these, 12,000 quintals of green vegetables are obtained and consumed locally Besides the regular shops, *hats* are held in the town on Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays*. The local market has a good supply of vegetables, fish, meat, eggs and birds for daily consumption. Previously there used to be plenty of cheap fish as most of the catch of Sone river used to be sold locally. Now there is a scarcity of fish owing to very large demand and export. Sone fish is proverbially very tasty.

Due to the development of industries at Dalmianagar and its vicinity, the discovery of pyrites mines at Amjhore (at a distance of about 20 miles from Dehri), the construction of the anicut at Indrapuri about five miles from the town, the construction of a road bridge over the river Sone and the scenery round about have been attracting tourists, Indian and foreign and so the town could be well developed as a tourist centre. But very little facility for their stay has been provided there, except that the factories at Dalmianagar have a rest house and there is one Inspection Bungalow where they could be permitted to stay. There are no standard hotels where they might put up The accommodation facilities for the middle-classes are very poor and costly.

As the town is situated in a healthy locality, people specially from Calcutta used to come in large number for a change to the town during the holidays Sone water is said to be very digestive. Many of them have their own bungalows along the bank of the river Sone. But as the town has become very congested and the atmosphere smoggy its value as a place of health resort has declined. Dehri is situated on the Grand Trunk Road and thousands of motorists pass through Dehri. At present motor cars are taken over the Sone bridge by the Railway. When the road bridge is complete there will be a great facility for the motorists Dehri is an ideal place for the fixing up of a tourists' or an Automobile Association's motel. There could also be a youth hostel. The area near the present anicut with forests of old Sisoo and teak trees is an ideal picnic spot. The historical relics nearabout and Rohtasgarh described separately could be popularised among the tourists

DEO BARUNARAK.—Regarding this place the *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), mentions as follows –

"A village in the headquarters subdivision, six miles north-east of Mahadeopur and 27 miles south-west of Arrah, containing two temples of considerable age In front of the larger one stand four

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* *Market Directory, Shahabad*, 1960, issued by Deputy Director of Agricultural Marketing, Bihar, Patna.

pillars of the Gupta style, on one of which is an inscription of Jivita Gupta (740 A D) of the later Gupta dynasty, which records the dedication of the temple to Barunarak. The shrine, although dedicated to the sun, now contains an image of Vishnu flanked by two small statues of the sun-god The second temple also has an old pedestal of a statue of Surya, and evidently belongs to the same time, both are built of brick with very little ornamentation and are in fair preservation, though the spires are broken Another interesting pillar of the Gupta period stands close to the temples. Its capital is square, and has on its four sides figures of Indra, Yama, Baruna and Kubera, the presiding deities of the east, south, west and north Around the circular shaft are eight rather indistinct figures which are evidently representations of the planets, as Rahu can be recognized among them (*see* Report, A S B C, for 1903-04)."*

There have not been much change to what has been stated. The condition of the monuments has much deteriorated

The nearest railway stations are Piro and Bikramganj on the Arrah Sasaram Light Railway From Piro it is about 18 miles south-east under Tarari police station and Tarari Block It is difficult to reach this place during rains as a *kutcha* road runs both from Piro and Bikramganj Only conveyance available are *ekkas*, bicycles and bullock carts Occasionally block jeeps also go to the village but only during fair weather

This village has been mentioned in the District Census Hand-Book of Shahabad (1951) as Deo' According to 1951 census, it is in Bikramganj police station bearing 681 thana number The total area of the village is 1,881 having 84 occupied houses. The total population is 1,427 souls (744 males and 683 females) out of which 197 persons (160 males and 37 females) have been enumerated as literate†.

Regarding the antiquarian remains at this village first noticed by Buchanan and then visited by Cunningham, Garrick and Bloch, a fuller description has been given by Dr D R Patil‡ Patil has described the group of sun temples and particularly the moon temple at some details A large number of Saiva deities have been noticed and an inscription which have not been investigated into An isolated monolithic column with ornamentation statuette and the worn out representations of the *Ashta-Dikpalas* (guardians of the eight quarters) locally called as Nava-grahas lead to the theory that the erection of the monolith was constructed with the original temple of sun god Dr Patil is of the view—"It seems the ruins had undergone in all three successive phases of construction and

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), page 167

† *District Census Hand-Book of Shahabad* (1951), page 194

‡ *The Antiquarian Remains in Bihar* by Dr D R. Patil (Patna), 1963, pages 99—103.

repairs, viz., (*a*) when the original temple of the sun-god was constructed sometime in the early Gupta period as is indicated by the later Gupta inscription already referred to This should, more properly, be expected to have been built nearby the tank, for the main temple on the terrace is rather too far away and is somewhat obliquely situated in relation to the tank and may not thus be the original site of the Sun temple It is curious that a carved door-frame which forms an essential part of Gupta temples has not been noticed in the existing ruins Further the present position of the monolithic column is not at all appropriately related to the main temple.

(*b*) When the Sun temple was either destroyed or was already in ruins and its remains, such as the four ornamented pillars and the broken carved pedestal, were removed and used in the construction of the main or Chaturbhuja Vishnu temple and the pedestal placed in the temple no (*ii*) above. This can be, however, more certainly stated only when the positions, whether they are *in situ* or not, of the pillars and the pedestal are more carefully examined on spot

(*c*) When all the Saiva temples were erected at the place, some time after the Vaishnava temple was raised The walled enclosure also may have been raised simultaneously. It is noteworthy that, except the enshrined image of Chaturbhuja Vishnu in the largest or main temple, majority of the sculptures in the ruins represent Saiva deities and it is the Siva linga in temple no (*v*) above that has been the chief object of worship so far"

DEO MARKANDEYA.—Dr. Hamilton Buchanan had visited this village during his tours of Shahabad district in 1812-13 and has left an account of the same in his memoirs*

Regarding the village, the *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), mentions as follows.—

"At Deo Markandeya, a village in the Sasaram subdivision, five miles north of Nasriganj, 37 miles to the south of Arrah and a few miles west of the Son near the Sasaram Arrah road, there are three temples and three isolated lingas standing on a large mound covered with bricks The principal one enshrines statues of Vishnu and Surya, of very crude fabric and probably of a late period The second temple merely has an image of Surya, and the third, which is still a place of religious worship, has a linga with four heads (*Chaumukhi Mahadeo*) The inhabitants quote a Sanskrit verse which says that the main temple was built in Bikrama Sambat 120 (A D. 63) by Gobhavini, the queen of Raja Phulchand Chero; and General Cunningham assigns the temples to the rule of the Cheros

* *Journal of Francis Buchanan kept during the survey of the district of Shahabad* in 1812-1813, pages 22—24; Patna, 1926.

over Shahabad in the sixth or seventh century. Later investigation shows, however, that they are not very old (*see* Reports, A. S.-I., Vol. XIX, 1885, and Report, A.S.B.C., for 1903-04)."*

The name of the village is said to have been derived from a saint Deo Markandeya who is supposed to have lived in about the middle of *Kaliyuga* and had erected the temple of Deo Markandeya. It may also be noted that the temple of Markandeya has given the name of the village as distinguished from another village Deo Barunarak.

The principal archaeological remains of this place are the ruins of two Brahmanical temples and an old tank called *Suraj Pokhara.* The oldest of the temples called *Deo Markandeya Ka Shivalaya* was already in ruins when Garrick visited the place in 1881. There is a smaller temple known as *Suraj Shivalaya* or the Sun temple. Sun temples are rather rare in Bihar. There are remains of some cells.

Dr. D. R. Patil in his *Antiquarian Remains in Bihar* has given a fuller description of the remains. He concludes.—"When Buchanan visited the place he saw on this mound, (*i*) the main temple in its centre, (*ii*) a very small Siva temple in its south-western corner, with only part of its walls standing and (*iii*) three or four Lingas, one of which is adorned with four heads." Cunningham says nothing of the Siva temple and the lingas, for, of the two temples, he noticed, the smaller one was seen by him in "a complete ruin". Garrick places this smaller temple "towards the south-western corner of the mound" and calls it the Sun temple which he says "is obviously a much later structure" and had already lost its roof at the time. This would mean that after Buchanan's visit the Sun temple had taken the place of the earlier Saiva shrine, some of the ruins of which may have found their way to the Saiva temples nearby referred to below.

"In Buchanan's time the upper part of the main temple had fallen, the porch in its front having also lost its roof. Inside the shrine was a 'pretty large' pedestal, supporting small images of Surya, Ganesa, etc., though it was originally meant for some larger image which no longer existed in the shrine. Cunningham later examined the shrine floor carefully and finding it to be of a later date removed the *debris* and discovered a larger figure of Vishnu, 3′ 5″ in height, which he thought was the original image enshrined in the temple. On the dedicatory block of the lintel of the door-frame of the shrine is a representation of some deity which neither Buchanan nor Cunningham could identify. Garrick carried out some excavation on the mound, but it does not add much of information, except that he discovered a highly sculptured gateway belonging to the ancient temple. His exploration gives no clue as to the original deity to which the temple was dedicated; though he

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), page 107.

recounts a local story how the small image of the Sun-god was discovered by the villagers in the debris of the main temple and was installed for worship in the smaller temple nearby. It is, therefore, a moot point whether the earliest or original temple here was that of the Sun-god or was a Saiva or Vaishnava shrine; and the problem can be solved satisfactorily only after a complete exploration of the mound and its ruins. One thing appears to be certain that there is much that is common between Deo Barunarak and Deo Markandeya ruin which are separated from each other by a distance of hardly 20 miles It is significant that at Deo Barunarak too we have a Vishnu image occupying the main shrine which was originally dedicated to the Sun-god and there is reason to believe that Deo Markandeya also the main shrine was originally dedicated to the Sun-god and was later converted to the worship of Vishnu."*

DHANSOI.—A large village in Buxar subdivision on Buxar-Itarhi bus route. A large quantity of paddy, rice, gram and other grain is exported from this village to Buxar There are a number of wholesalers and retailers at the village *Hats* are held at the village on Tuesdays and Saturdays

DUMRAON RAJ—This Raj family members are "Parmar" Rajputs and trace their pedigree to Raja Vikramaditya who was an important ruler of India, 56 years before the Christian era with the capital of his kingdom in Ujjain in the province of Malwa The Bikrami Sambat of the Hindus is being reckoned from his time of rule and is also therefore named accordingly. There have been 69 (sixty-nine) ruler ancestors of Ujjain in Malwa It is because of this blood and historical relation that the Dumraon Raj family are popularly known as "Ujjain Rajputs".

The founder of the family in the district of Shahabad was one Santana Shahi who is said to have settled in village Karur while returning from Gaya where he had gone to offer *Pindas* in 1320 A D It appears from *Tawarikh Ujjania* that Santana Shahi never returned to Ujjain in Malwa and acquired extensive properties in this district along with the increase in the membership of his family and dependants. The seats of his capital were therefore changed from time to time from one place to another like Dawan, Bihia, Jagdishpur, Bhojpur, Buxar, Mathila and the like according to necessity with the expansion of family and the Raj properties Traces and remains—in ruins of course—of their fortresses and palaces are still available in all these places and the local people of even today tell their tales coming down from mouth to mouth It was in 1745 when Raja Horil Singh shifted the headquarters of his capital from Naya Bhojpur to Dumraon which continues to be so till today. There is still the great old fort in which the Maharajas used to live and their offices and treasuries were housed.

* *The Antiquarian Remains in Bihar* by Dr. D R. Patil (Patna), 1963, pages 112-113.

With the increase in the various branches of the successors of Santana Shahi, natural rivalries had developed and during the war between Sher Shah and Humayun in 1534—1540, Gajpati or Gajau Shahi and Dalpat Shahi, two rival princes of the family joined opposite sides, and each succeeded in obtaining rewards for their services in the shape of extensive Jagirs and the recognition of their position as Raja and Commander and thereby they gained further prominence in the local areas. During the reign of Akbar, Gajpati Shahi and his brother Bairisal defied the Moghal armies for several years. But the rising of Dalpat Shahi ended in his defeat and imprisonment for some time On release from imprisonment, he continued in rebellion under Jahangeer until his capital was sacked by the Moghals. Raja Narain Mal who succeeded in 1607 was the sole proprietor of Bhojpur and Jagdishpur till 1621 He was recognized as "Raja Mal Mansabdar" and he could keep 7,000 troops at his command On his death the estate passed to his brother Rudra Pratap Narain Singh in the absence of any direct male descendant and he had removed the seat of his family to Naya Bhojpur which continued to be so till 1745 when it was shifted to Dumraon as already indicated above Naya Bhojpur was situated on the bank of the Ganga It was obviously due to the cutting of the river bank on the southern side and consequently threatening the submergence of the then fortress at Naya Bhojpur known as "Naurattan" garh that the seat was shifted further south to Dumraon

Raja Horil Singh with his seat in Dumraon was succeeded in 1746 by Raja Chhatradhari Singh and the next great chief of the Dumraon family was Raja Bikramjit Singh, who was recognized as Raja by the Emperor Shah Alam in 1771 On the death of Raja Bikramjit Singh in 1816, his son Jai Prakash Singh succeeded to the *gaddi* of Dumraon Raj and the formal title of Maharaja Bahadur was conferred upon him by the British rulers of India evidently for his great and valuable public services The great and valuable public services of the heads of the Dumraon House received due recognition both from Mohamedan and British rulers from time to time in the shape of position and property and the prerogatives and titles enjoyed by the family during the Mohamedan period were also confirmed by the British rulers on their occupation of Bihar Apart from other contributions towards public welfare, the temple of Sri Beharijee at the Dumraon Garh built about the year 1835 owes its creation to him. On the death of Maharaja Bahadur Jai Prakash Singh, the Dumraon Raj estates passed on to his grand son the son having predeceased—Shri Janki Prasad Singh who died very young in 1843 leaving no male issue He was, therefore, succeeded by his own uncle and guardian—being the nearest collateral, Shri Maheshwar Baksh Singh. A formal title of Maharaja Bahadur was conferred on him too on the fulfilment of the usual terms and conditions as second in rank among the Maharajas of Patna division. In 1872 he was formally recognized as holding the higher title of

Maharaja which he had in fact enjoyed for 28 years before it was officially conferred on him He was created a K.C.S.I. shortly before his death in November 1881 and was succeeded by his only son, Radha Prasad Singh who had already received the title of Raja (during the life-time of the father) for his valuable services during the famine of 1873 74 and the title of Maharaja Bahadur was conferred on him in 1882 on the main ground of his being the head of the Rajputs in Shahabad So also on the precedence of the Zamindars of Bettiah, Hathwa and Darbhanga who possessed the title of Maharaja Bahadur, he was given this title not inferior to that of those noblemen Maharaja Radha Prasad Singh was subsequently made K C I E. He died in 1894 without leaving any male issue but leaving his widow, Beni Prasad Kuari and a daughter who had already been married to His Highness Maharaja Venkat Raman Singh of Rewah. Late His Highness Maharaja Gulab Singh was the son of Maharaja Venkat Raman from the daughter of Maharaja Radha Prasad Singh of Dumraon. Maharaja Gulab Singh was compelled to abdicate his throne in favour of his son by the British rulers for his active association and support to the congress movement of independence and he died recently while in exile in Bombay.

On the death of Maharaja Radha Prasad Singh the Dumraon Raj was placed under the management of Court of Wards but soon after Maharani Beni Prasad Kuari took it back and managed it very well till her death in 1907.

On the death of Maharani Beni Prasad Kuari the Raj was involved in a prolonged litigation A boy of Jagdishpur as Jang Bahadur Singh was given out to have been adopted by the said Maharani Beni Prasad Kuari, on the other hand there was the claim of Sri Kesho Prasad Singh being the nearest collateral (*Gotia*) of late Maharaja Radha Prasad Singh and living in a portion of the same palace in which Maharaja himself was living As a result of the said litigation and adoption of Jang Bahadur Singh (then being minor) the Dumraon Raj was again placed under the Court of Wards. Sri Kesho Prasad Singh was driven to institute a title suit in the Sub-Judge's Court, Arrah to press his claim. A large number of supporters gathered round him and he eventually succeeded in obtaining a decree in 1911 nullifying the adoption of Jang Bahadur Singh and declaring the title in favour of Babu Kesho Prasad Singh and giving him the delivery of possession of the Dumraon Raj from the Court of Wards which filed an appeal in the Calcutta High Court because there was then no High Court of Judicature at Patna. The case was eventually compromised in 1913-14 and compromise decree was passed by the Calcutta High Court declaring the rightful title of Sri Kesho Prasad Singh and nullifying the adoption of Jang Bahadur Singh There was thus a suspension of litigation till about 1925-26 when the said Sri Jang

Bahadur Singh attained his majority and filed afresh a title suit, in the original jurisdiction of the Calcutta High Court, praying for the setting aside of the said compromise decree and restoring the possession of Dumraon Raj to him. He lost this case and so also the first and second appeals in the Calcutta High Court and Privy Council respectively. The second appeal in the Privy Council was decided in 1949.

In the meantime Sri Kesho Prasad Singh was formally honoured with the title of Maharaja Bahadur and Knighthood (Kt. C. B. E.) in quick succession soon after the original suit decree in 1911 and his getting possession of the Dumraon Raj. He was for sometime on the Executive Council of His Excellency the Governor of Bihar. When he died in 1933 leaving his widow Maharani, two sons and five daughters he was succeeded to the *Gaddi* of Dumraon Raj by his eldest son Maharaja Bahadur Rama Ran Vijai Prasad Singh. He was a graduate of the Mayo College of Princes at Ajmer He was a member of the Central Legislative Assembly for some time during the British rule. On the death of Maharaja Rama Ran Vijai Prasad Singh leaving two sons and two daughters in 1949 the succession of the *Gaddi* of Dumraon Raj naturally went to his eldest son Maharaja Kamal Singh. He was twice elected as a member of the House of People—once in the general election of 1952 and the other in 1957 by defeating the Congress and other candidates in thumping majority. It is during the regime of Maharaja Kamal Singh that the intermediary interests (Zamindaris and the like) were abolished by the Bihar Land Reforms Act, 1950 and the possession of the Zamindari villages of Dumraon Raj were handed to the State of Bihar in June, 1952. Maharaja Kamal Singh has set an example by being an industrialist. He has sponsored a Lantern factory, a mechanized modern agricultural farm and a cold storage at Dumraon.

The properties of the Dumraon Raj formerly extended over mainly in Shahabad, Patna, Saran and Muzaffarpur districts in Bihar and in Ballia, Ghazipur, Banaras and Azamgarh in Uttar Pradesh province. The size and volume of the Dumraon Raj properties increased mostly during the regime of Maharaja Maheswar Baksh Singh. After him an extensive Zamindari property in Gaya district was purchased by Maharaja Rama Ran Vijai Prasad Singh in 1942 from the European proprietors yielding a gross income of over two lakhs as rent, etc. This newly acquired property was subsequently allotted for the maintenance of the junior members of the family as indicated above. The annual rent roll of Dumraon Raj both in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh was about 21 lakhs on the eve of the Zamindari Abolition Law in 1951

Dumraon Raj has sponsored a number of religious and charitable institutions. Dumraon town and the suburbs are full of beautiful temples and tanks with separate *pucca* Ghats for men and

women. The largest and by far the most important one is the temple of "Shri Bihariji" (Lord Krishna with Radhika Rani) built about 1840 by Maharaja Jai Prakash Singh and situated within the *Garh* compound. This temple is a great attraction for people from far and near. There are a number of other temples and charitable trusts in their connection at Dumraon and Varanasi.

The Raj has also sponsored and is maintaining a general hospital at Dumraon, another at Bikramganj, a veterinary dispensary at Dumraon, a higher secondary school, a girls' high and a middle school and a Sanskrit high school at Dumraon. The Raj has sponsored and has made liberal endowments to the Maharaja College at Arrah. The last few institutions were sponsored by the young Maharaja Kamal Singh.

Regarding the maintenance the absence of written trusts was, for the first time, realised by Maharaja Ram Ran Vijay Prasad Singh who created four separate trusts, one for religious institutions and three for hospitals, in 1948 and 1949 and allotted the income from a large number of villages to meet the usual annual expenditure on these institutions as used to be previously provided in the Raj Budgets These institutions are being managed by the present Maharaja Sri Kamal Singh.

Dumraon hospital at Dumraon has recently been provided with an X'Ray Plant and an equipped clinical laboratory and an Operation Theatre Dr Rajendra Prasad, the President of India performed the opening ceremony of the X'Ray building on the 3rd October, 1959 The Raj school at Dumraon has recently been equipped with a Science laboratory, a hostel and a pavilion. Maharaja Kamal Singh has set up a number of charitable institutions himself and made lavish donations of land, buildings and money to various useful institutions, like schools, colleges, hospitals, etc, in Shahabad and Ballia districts managed by other agencies Very recently he has created a Trust known as "Dumraon Raj Charitable Trust' dedicating thereto the entire Raj Garh and a large area of land mainly for helping educational institutions and needy students. He is a keen florist and grows good roses.

DUMRAON TOWN - Dumraon town in Buxar subdivision is situated on the main line of the Eastern Railway The last *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), mentions:—"Town and municipality in the Buxar subdivision situated on the East Indian Railway, 400 miles from Calcutta, in 25°33'N and 84°9'E Population 14,132 The town, which contains a charitable dispensary, veterinary dispensary and high English school, is best known in connection with the Dumraon Raj, to which family it has given its name The principal buildings are the palace and pavilion of the Raj, both excellent examples of modern Hindu architecture The former residence of the family is said to have been destroyed by Mir Kasim Ali Within the palace grounds stands a temple dedicated to Sri Bihariji, where

great religious festivals are celebrated on the birth-days of Ram and Krishna, to which *Pandits* are invited from all parts of India."* Dumraon town is intimately associated with the Dumraon Raj family which has been separately covered.

Dumraon town is different now (1964) The East Indian Railway is known as the Eastern Railway. The table below will show the variation of the population from 1901 to 1961† –

Year	Persons	Male.	Female
1901	17,236	8,059	9,177
1911	15,042	7,402	7,640
1921	14,132	7,137	6,995
1931	14,421	7,602	6,819
1941	16,316	8,473	7,843
1951	16,605	8 486	8,119
1961	19,662	10,313	9,349

The town is connected with other places by road A large number of buses ply from Dumraon to Arrah, Buxar, Sasaram, Bikramganj, Nasriganj, Bhabua, etc From Dumraon one can easily motor up to Grand Trunk Road *via* Bikramganj and Sasaram

The main roads in the town are metalled The Dumraon Municipality maintains about six miles of *pucca* and six miles of *katcha* roads The vehicles within the town are buses, rickshaws, cycles, taxis, *tamtams* and bullock carts The condition of some of the roads are not good The municipality has provided 13 tube-wells for water-supply There are a large number of wells in the town which supply drinking water

There is an Inspection Bungalow of the District Board and also one Rest Shed of Irrigation Department. Besides there are a number of cheap roadside eating houses and tea shops which also offer temporary accommodation. Accommodation provided for visitors is inadequate and of low standard

The town has a Dumraon Raj Hospital with an accommodation of 35 beds The details will be found on chapter 'Medical and Public Health Services'

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), pages 167 168.

† Figures from 1901 to 1951 have been taken from *District Census Hand-Book of Shahabad* (1951) page 8 and 1961 figures from *Census of India*, 1961, *Volume* IV, Bihar, Part IIA (General Population Table)

The town has a class I veterinary dispensary, a higher secondary school, a girls' high school, a Sanskrit high school and a middle school. All these schools have been sponsored by the Dumraon Raj. The details will be found on 'Education and Culture' chapter.

Dumraon is a large trading centre dealing mainly in paddy, rice, wheat, *khesari*, *gur* and potato obtained locally and exported to places outside the district It is the headquarters of a police-station and Community Development Block of the same name. *Hats* are held here on Mondays and Thursdays.

There is one cattle farm known as Hariana Cattle Breeding Farm started in 1949 with cows and bulls purchased from the Hariana breeding tracts of the Punjab in 1950. This farm breeds pedigree bulls for distribution for the purpose of improving local breeds. The bulls are in great demand and the demand is on the increase. The farm is situated on about 395 acres of land and at present (1963) has a total strength of about 1,400 Hariana and Shahabadi cattle, besides *jamunapari* bucks and pedigree pigs The details will be found in the chapter on 'Agriculture and Irrigation'.

The Dumraon Raj has started a lantern factory which is producing good lanterns. They have a ready market. A side produce of the same factory is the production of nails used up by the shoe industry. There are other large-scale industries in the offing.

DURAULI—Regarding Durauli village the last *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), mentions—"A village five miles north-east from the village of Ramgarh, in the north-eastern corner of the Bhabua subdivision, containing some remains popularly assigned to the Savars, the principal of which are two old temples with carved stone obelisks and a large tank little more than three-quarters of a mile long From the character of the remains, Dr Buchanan concluded that the Cheros have a temple here, which the Savars destroyed, and that the obelisks found were probably erected to commemorate its destruction Later investigation has shown that temples and sculptures are clearly Brahmanical in style and conception (*see* Vol XIX Reports, A S-I, 1885)"*

A large number of ancient ruins which include a large tank, two temples, a mound and inscriptions and sculptures representing various Hindu deities The carvings also include a "Sati-stone" with sculptured panels, bearing the sun and the moon with a human hand in between, which is quite rarely to be found in Bihar Buchanan attributed the ruins to Suirs and Cheros†.

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), page 166.

† *The Antiquarian Remains in Bihar* by Dr D B Patil (Patna), 1963 pages 92-98.

This village is under the jurisdiction of Ramgarh police-station. The total population according to the 1951 census was 485 persons, i.e., 262 males and 223 females with 67 occupied houses. The total number of literate persons was 64, i e, 64 males and females nil.

DURGAWATI.—The *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), mentions this village as 'Dargawati'. It gives the following details of the village:—

"A village in the Bhabua subdivision, at the place where the Grand Trunk Road crosses the Durgauti river by a suspension bridge. Here is a police-station, a post office, and an inspection bungalow, while close by is the Durgauti station on the Grand Chord Line of the East Indian Railway The road to Zamania, which was more important before the building of the railway line from Gaya to Moghalsarai, here leaves the Grand Trunk Road, crossing the Karamnasa by a temporary bridge in the dry season, and by a ferry in the rains Sawath, close by, was the headquarters of the ancient police circle (thana), in which were included Mohania and Bhabua. Here Jean Baptiste Tavernier halted on December the 15th, 1665, as he passed down the road from Agra to Patna, and here, from December of 1763 to February of 1764 were camped the armies of the Company and the Nawab Mir Jafar, when the mutinies occurred which have been described in Chapter II."*

Since J F W James revised the *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* in 1924, there have been many changes in the village There is no more an inspection bungalow at the village and the name of the East Indian Railway has changed to Eastern Railway. There is now a magnificent bridge on the river of the same name It is also the headquarters of a Community Development Block of the same name

The village has a large marketing centre. It deals mainly in paddy, rice, wheat, gram and *khesari*, obtained locally and exported within the district.

GAJRAJGANJ —A village under Udwantnagar Block in the Mofussil police-station of the Sadar subdivision. It consists of two villages namely, Ramsagar and Mahuli Buzrug situated on the Arrah-Buxar road 10 miles west of Arrah

The village is under Chhoti Sasaram *Panchayat* The village is electrified About 25 houses have electric connection There are some small shops for supply of daily necessities

A *hat* is held on every Friday and Monday There are two *atta chakis* in it It is peculiar that there are no bullock carts in this village and there are only six carts in the *halka* Goods are

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* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), page 160.

brought on headload to the market. Bihea and Arrah are the principal markets There are small ordinary shops that sell tea, sweets and snacks.

There are two lower primary schools in the village. About 35 per cent of the villagers are literate.

There is a Shankar temple at the village. About 15 families of Muslims live in the village. The village is the headquarters of the Village Level Worker of Chhoti Sasaram *Halka*.

This village came into prominence in the insurrections of 1857. Gajrajganj being on the main artery saw the movements from both the sides.

GAROHAT.—This place was visited by Dr. Buchanan who has left an account of the same in his memoirs.*

The *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), gives the following details of the village —

"A chero chief, named Manda, is popularly . . believed to have had his citadel at Garohat in the valley . . . . .the Katana seven miles south-west of Bhabua. . . . . ruins, tanks, reservoirs and the remains of brick buildings are found extending over an area of about 1½ miles from east to west and half a mile from north to south; and other works, also ascribed to the Cheros, stretch to the east and west along the northern side of the hills."†

This village is one of the most interesting but untapped archaeological sites in the district According to a note, inserted by Oldham in editing the Shahabad Journal of Dr Buchanan, supplied by the then Subdivisional Officer of Bhabua (Mr. S C. Chakraborty), the real name of the place is 'Garhvat' which is the site of a big fort one mile off from Mohanpur Tori and about two miles off Bhagwanpur towards south

There has been no excavation of this site It is expected that ancient relics will be discovered if an excavation is made

The strategic advantage of the place makes it clear that this must have been used as a fort or a place of refuge or was probably a seat of the Chero Rajas In view of the association of the place with the ruins of Mundeshwari hill, the place deserves to be explored further Buchanan Hamilton had noticed some sculptured fragments of Hindu deities like Vishnu with his vehicle *Garura* indicating that there was a Hindu temple on or near the spot.

* *Journal of Francis Buchanan district Shahabad in* 1812-13, pages 118—123; Patna. 1926.

† *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), pages 169-170.

GUPTESHWAR.—The last *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), mentions as follows –

"The caves of Gupteswar are situated in a narrow precipitous glen in the Kaimur plateau, about eight miles from Shergarh. The entrance lies a little way up the hill, and is about eighteen feet wide by twelve feet high, the mouth, has, however, been built up into an archway on which are some rough paintings of figures. The first cave, a damp, slimy place with a slippery floor of rock, extends almost due east from the mouth for about 120 yards, with steep descents at the end. About half-way, a branch leads off to the south-east, which, after running ninety feet or so, rejoins the main gallery. A narrow passage again leads from this into the west end of a second gallery similar to the first, which is about 370 feet long. This latter, about 140 feet from its west end, is crossed at right angles by a similar gallery, the south arm of which is the largest, being eighty yards long. Stalactites are numerous, and one of them on which water drips incessantly, is worshipped as the god Mahadeo. A fair is held once a year at the caves."*

The cave is a great attraction in the Kaimur plateau but the difficulties of communication stand on the way of development of tourist traffic to Gupteshwar.

It is a pity that since Hunter had referred to these wonderful caves with traces of paintings in his 'Statistical Account of Bengal', there has not been a proper exploration to ascertain the antiquity and history of the area.

HASANBAZAR.—A village in Piro police-station of the Sadar subdivision on the Arrah Sasaram Light Railway and on the Arrah Sasaram road. It trades mainly in large quantities of rice which are obtained locally and are exported to areas outside the district. *Hats* are held here on Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays. A good commercial centre.

HATTA.—A village in the Chainpur police-station of Bhabua subdivision and on the Bhabua-Hatta bus route. It deals mainly in paddy which is obtained locally and consumed within the district.

JADUNATHPUR.—This village is at a distance of about 14 miles from Nauhatta Block. There is a *Ka'cha* road (of District Board) which connects Nauhatta with Jadunathpur. But this road is not jeepable even in fair weather. There is an another forest road which is jeepable during fair weather and it also connects Nauhatta with this village.

The village has an area of 2,761 acres with a population of 153 persons, i.e., 76 males and 77 females according to the census of 1961 as supplied by the Block office.

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), page 170.

The village is inhabited by tribals namely, Chero and other castes such as Rajput, Teli, Kahar, etc.

There is a lower primary school.

ITARHI.—A village, headquarters of a Thana of the same name in Buxar subdivision and on Buxar-Itarhi bus route. It deals in large quantities of paddy, rice and *khesari* which are obtained locally and exported outside the district. *Hats* are held here on Wednesdays and Saturdays

JAGDISHPUR TOWN—A town situated on the Bihea-Piro road is the administrative headquarters of Jagdishpur Development Block and the police-station of the same name. It is about 22 miles towards south-west from Arrah, the district headquarters. The nearest railway station is Bihea at a distance of about six miles from the town It has an area of 2 00 square miles with 1,970 occupied residential houses. The total population of the town according to 1961 census is 11,840, i e, 5,919 males and 5,921 females.* The total number of literates and educated persons is 2,852. i.e, 2,301 males and 551 females †

Regarding Jagdishpur town the last *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), mentions as follows:—

"Town in the headquarters subdivision, situated in 25°28′ North and 84°26′ East Population (1921) 8,564. The town was formerly surrounded by dense jungle, from which the mutineers long defied the attempts of the British to dislodge them. This was the stronghold of Kuar Singh to which he retreated on the relief of Arrah, and as it was necessary to break his power effectually, Vincent Eyre resolved to follow up his victory and drive him from his jungle fortress. On the 12th August 1857 the enemy were found in strong position, having a river in their front, the village of Dalur in their centre, partially protected by earthworks, and in their rear the formidable belt of jungle which covered the approach to Jagdishpur The action was short but decisive The enemy's right was concealed behind broken ground and low jungle, but as soon as Eyre located their position, he opened upon them with grape; and the men of the tenth Foot following this up with a bayonet charge drove them panic-stricken into the jungle. Meanwhile the Sikhs, the Fifth Fusiliars and the Volunteers from Arrah held in check the mutineers' left, consisting of Kuar Singh's irregulars; and as soon as a howitzer was brought up against them, they too gave way, and a hot pursuit ensued, terminating only at Jagdishpur itself. Kuar Singh had barely time to effect his escape in the direction of Sasaram, leaving his stronghold in our hands.

* *Census of India*, 1961, *Volume IV*, Bihar, Part II-A, page 80.

† *Ibid*. page 411.

"In April 1858 Kuar Singh, who had been driven out of Azimgarh by Sir E. Lugard, again made his way to the jungles of Jagdishpur, and the officer commanding the troops at Arrah determined on an attack, before the enemy, broken and dispirited, should have time to recover his energies or make any efficient preparation for defence Accordingly, with two companies of H. M.'s 35th, 140 strong, fifty European sailors and a hundred Sikhs, five artillerymen and two guns, he made a night march, arriving in the neighbourhood of Jagdishpur before daylight When day dawned he entered the jungles, into which he had not penetrated far, when, meeting with some slight opposition, he ordered a retreat The retreat on the part of the Europeans degenerated into a panic flight. No entreaties of their officers could induce the men again to form and face their pursuers, whilst heat and fatigue did their work and proved fatal enemies Man after man dropped from exhaustion; and out of nearly two hundred European soldiers and seamen who left Arrah, not more than 59 returned alive. Guns, ammunition, tent-equipage, etc, fell into the enemy's hands; but it is due to the artillerymen to say that they fought their guns to the last, and out of the five only one escaped The Sikhs behaved with the greatest bravery, forming a rearguard and covering the retreat, and perhaps it is not too much to say that but for them not a European would have returned to Arrah

"The jungle, which formed part of the confiscated property of Kuar Singh, was finally cleared by the present proprietors of the Bihia estate Mr Burrows, a contractor on the East Indian Railway had been presented with the lease of the jungle, on condition that he cleared a certain portion within two years; but as it still afforded an asylum to the mutineers, more active measures became necessary, and Government offered six rupees for each bigha of land cleared by a certain date With four thousand men at work, a broad path of half mile wide was driven right through the jungle, while minor gaps were cut at right angles, rendering the whole accessible and the further concealment of rebels impossible. The estate was rapidly developed by Messrs Burrows, Thompson and Mylne, the grantees a large number of wells were sunk; later the Bihia branch canal was constructed through the entire length of the jungle *mahal;* and the estate is now one of the most prosperous and highly cultivated areas in the district."*

There has been since a good deal of change in the town The town is connected by road on various directions. A large number of buses connect Jagdishpur with Bihea, Arrah and Piro, etc On the average about 300 persons daily come to the town or go out of it by buses. The main roads in the town are metalled The Jagdishpur Municipality maintains about two miles of *pucca* roads within

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), pages 170—172.

the town. The vehicles within the town are buses, cycles, carts and *tamtams*. There are some private cars and taxis in the town.

The town has no Dak Bungalow or Inspection Bungalow. The old house of Mr. Mylne now in possession of the Government is used for accommodation to the officials and non-officials.* There are some cheap roadside eating houses, tea shops and a few hotels of a poor standard. There are a number of *pan-biri* shops, hair-cutting saloons, etc.

The town has one lower primary school, one *maktab*, one upper primary sanskrit school, one upper primary school, two middle schools including one for girls, and one high school with 450 students and 12 teachers. The high school has a number of girl students. The town has one library with about 600 books. The readership is about 30 persons a day.

The sanitation of the town is poor. The Jagdishpur Municipality looks after the sanitation, roads, and water-supply, etc. A conservancy staff of 49 headed by a *jamadar* is maintained for the sanitation work of the town. The conservancy staff cleans about 200 private and public latrines daily.

The town has 97 private wells and 37 hand-pumps. The Jagdishpur Municipality has set up seven hand pumps and 53 wells in the town. Besides, 20 drinking wells and 20 hand-pumps have been provided by the Jagdishpur Development Block. The town was electrified in 1960 and about 800 houses have been electrified since. Very little use is made of electricity for industrial purposes.

The town has a State dispensary with 20 beds. Prior to 1955 the dispensary was maintained by the District Board but was provincialised in 1955. It has one doctor and other staff. On the average about 1,735 outdoor and 345 indoor patients were treated during 1963-64. The town has private allopathic, homoeopathic and Ayurvedic practitioners.

The town has a post office including a public call telephone office, a registry office, a class I veterinary dispensary, three slaughter-houses and a liquor shop. It was personally observed that about 75 persons visit the liquor shop daily.

Industries.—So far as the industries are concerned the town has only a few small-scale and cottage industries. There is no manufacture of *gur* and molasses on any considerable scale as mentioned in the District Gazetteer published in 1906. The District Gazetteer published in 1924 does not mention this and so it may be presumed that this industry had disappeared before 1924. With the abolition of the sugar mill at Bihea, the cultivation of sugarcane has gone down. It is understood that the sugar manufactured by Bihea sugar mill was of an inferior quality and could not get a good market.

* It is wrong to ascribe the present house to Kuar Singh.

The small-scale industries are the twisting of ropes and the manufacture of indigenous washing soap. *Sabai* grass obtained from the local market is the raw material for the making of ropes. On a local enquiry it was ascertained that a woman can make 2½ seers of rope a day worth Rs. 6. The raw materials for soap-making are imported from Calcutta, Arrah and Dehri. One labourer can turn out about seven seers of soap per day Rupee one and fifty Paise are the daily wages of a soap maker

There are two oil *ghani kolhus* in the town. This small-scale industry is helped by the oil men industrial co-operative society in the town which was started in 1962

The other household industries are carpentry, pottery, black-smithy, making of brass utensils and hand-pounding of rice, etc.

The cart wheels made in Jagdishpur have a very good market within the district and outside The carpenters procure the timber from Bihea about six miles from Jagdishpur.

Jagdishpur is noted for turning out fireworks of quality There are a number of licencees who procure raw materials from Patna, Arrah and Biharsharif and turn out various types of fireworks which are in good demand

A few co-operative societies were formed to encourage the cottage industries and to give credit facilities The State Khadi and the Village Industries Board, Patna, the Industries Department and the Block Development Office are the other agencies for giving credit facilities.

Jagdishpur has a sizable market with three grain-*golas* fed by nine rice mills Bi-weekly *hats* are held on every Monday and Friday The cheap modes of conveyance for carrying the goods are bullock carts, pack bullocks and *tamtams*. The main articles sent out from Jagdishpur are rice and cart wheels. There are two fair price shops in the town The town deals in rice, wheat, barley, *khesari*, linseed, potato, onion, sugar, *gur* and hides obtained locally and exported to various places. Hides are exported to Calcutta

JARAN OR TARAN.—This ancient site and tank about seven miles north of Suryapura noticed by Buchanan was left out in the last District Gazetteer. Buchanan had noticed a large elevated mound on which was situated a small village, the mound being locally known as Taran. In his description of Deo-Markandeya Buchanan mentions that locally it is taken to be the site of the abode of the Chero Raja Phudi Chandra, who, before he came to it, resided at Deo-Markanda which is about 12 or 14 miles south-east.

Dr. D. R. Patil mentions*:—"The place has not been found mentioned anywhere else as containing ancient ruins and is well worth an exploration, in view of the antiquity of the ruins of Deo Markendeya, with which it is traditionally associated."

KARAMNASA.—A village under police-station Durgawati of Bhabua subdivision on the Grand Trunk Road and on the Grand Chord Line of the Eastern Railway. The main item of trade in this place is *khesari* which is obtained locally and exported to Bombay, Varanasi and Patna.

KARANJA.—This place has also not been mentioned in the last District Gazetteer. Buchanan attributed the ruins at this village to the Cheros. Buchanan noticed a temple at *Dakshina Bhavana* or the gates of the south situated about two miles east from the village Karanja. He found three brick temples with dome roofs, built inside the walled enclosure One contained the deity of Kali and another a *linga* and the third an image of deity locally called *Bhairava.* Buchanan thought it to be of Buddha. Buchanan also noticed a number of images and carvings scattered about the place and four tanks No excavation appears to have been made.

KATHAULI.—This village situated about four miles east of Buxar was also not noticed in the last *District Gazetteer of Shahabad.* "The well-known battle of Buxar, of 1764 A D between the Nawab Vazir of Audh and the East India Company, was fought here, in which the former was defeated with two of his generals, viz, Ghulam Qadir and Shuja Quli, killed on the spot Both the generals were buried at the site of the battle, but their original graves and the inscriptions on them had disappeared before 1913 The existing tombs and the epigraphs were set up newly thereafter as stated by Blakiston in his report for 1913-14 The Bengal List gives the name of one of the generals as Ghulam Haidar Khan in place of Ghulam Qadir Khan of Kuraishi's List."†

KOATH.—The last *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), mentions Koath as.—"A village in the extreme north of the Sasaram subdivision, ten miles from Bikramganj. Population (1921) 5,352 The village contains a dispensary; and it is the headquarters of an engineer of the Public Works Department Here is the residence of the well-known Bilgrami family descendants of Nawab Nurul Husain Khan, who came from the family home at Bilgram in Oudh after peace had been concluded with Shuja-ud-daula, when he received a large zamindari.

* *The Antiquarian Remains in Bihar* by Dr D R. Patil (Patna), 1963, page 188.

† *Ibid*, page 196.

"The village was the scene of Hindu-Muhammadan riots in 1893, and again in 1917, when a very plucky defence was put up by the Muhammadans on being attacked."*

The village is now on the way of becoming a township. This was one of the biggest muslim populated villages in the subdivision. After the partition of the country some noted families of the village went to Pakistan and settled there.

According to the census of 1951 its total population was 6,961, i.e., 3,589 males and 3,372 females. The total number of literates was 3,172, i.e., 3,058 males and 114 females†. According to the provisional census of 1961 its total population is 8,220 persons. It is under the jurisdiction of Dawath police-station and Dawath Block.

The village has a mixed population consisting of ex-zamindars, agriculturists, businessmen and service-holders. The main castes are Mohammadans, Brahmans, Kayasthas, etc.

The village has a post office, a State dispensary, two lower primary, two upper primary, one *madrasa* and one higher secondary school. There are 20 teachers and about 700 students in the higher secondary school There is co-education in the school.

The village has a market with a variety of shops. There are about six flour mills in the village. The village has an inspection bungalow of the Irrigation Department. There is a big library named Rastriya Pustakalya since 1930. There are 1,500 books. The daily readership is poor.

There is a Gram Panchayat in the village.

The sanitation work of the village is looked after by the Koath Union Board. The Union was constituted at Koath in March, 1915. It was styled as the Koath Union Board in 1949 The Union consists of five members The area of the Union Board comprises the villages Koath, Nawabganj, Fatehganj and Joginee Dillia.

The partition of the country, as mentioned earlier, led to the migration of members of some noted Muslim families to Pakistan. The Bilgrami family and some of the Pathan families have given a number of poets, scholars and administrators. This village has given a large number of men to the Police and Army. It is unfortunate that the Bilgrami family should now be remembered more by a particular type of sweets known as *Bilgrami* Some of the old houses are in a bad condition. It is believed that some of the Muslim families had valuable historical records, manuscripts and pictures which have now been lost.

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* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), page 172.

† *District Census Hand-Book of Shahabad* (1951), page 206.

This is also an old village with nostalgic memory and appears to have had an intellectual and economic decline

KUDRA.—A village under a police-station and the Community Development Block of the same name in Bhabua subdivision. It is situated on the Grand Chord Line of the Eastern Railway and on the Grand Trunk Road It is an important trading centre for paddy, rice gram, *khesari*, *masoor* and linseed obtained locally and exported outside the district

KULHARIA AND KOILWAR.—Kulharia and Koilwar—two neighbouring villages in Shahabad district—accessible by Patna-Arrah road and by Eastern Railway were studied Kulharia is a densely populated village and there are about 23 types of castes, the predominant of whom are the Rajputs It has an area of about 1,400 acres of land with homesteads which run to about 103 acres. The villagers are mostly cultivators with lands There are a few cultivators who do not possess any land Quite a number of well-to-do families of Kulharia village have made their mark in the Bar and other fields in Bihar. There is a population of about 100 agriculturist labourers who earn their wages by selling their labour. There are a few landless labourers as well.

It is rather peculiar that no industry has been attempted at this village. Excepting a few potters, *biri* workers and basket-makers, there is hardly any cottage industry The proximity to the towns of Patna and Arrah on either side, the easy accessibility to the market through road and Koilwar Railway Station which is within a mile would normally indicate an industrial potentiality for the area

In a way the village suffers from the fact that the educated men of Kulharia usually stay out of the village either in Patna, Arrah or elsewhere. The village politics is running into group lines and the pivot is the caste structure Culturally, the village appears to be rather backward in spite of the fact that there had been educationists, advocates and philanthropists from this village One of the biggest colleges in the State, B. N. College of Patna, was founded by an ex-zamindar family of Kulharia

The socio-economic survey of village Koilwar disclosed that this was also a very large village with about 1,338 acres and 772 houses. There are brick-built houses belonging either to the ex-zamindars or to people who were or are in Government services. The majority of the houses are mud-built with tile roofing Koilwar has a railway station, a post office, a police-station, C D. Block office, a hospital, a veterinary hospital, a high school and several other schools of lower standards for boys and girls and two libraries besides a *gram panchayat* and a co-operative society. The location of Koilwar just on the bank of river Sone has made the place attractive and a sanatorium for T B. patients has been built at a distance of two kilometres from the village The village has got

electricity Koilwar is supposed to have a healthy climate and is a spot for picnic The railway bridge on Sone by Koilwar was a piece of engineering skill It serves both for pedestrians and vehicles below and for the railway above.

The people of the village being close to Patna and Arrah are quite active politically and somehow they are not as complacent or caste minded as the villagers of Kulharia were found to be although the two villages are within two miles of each other The economic condition of the village is, however, at a very low ebb The land is sandy and irrigation facilities are scarce There are about 500 families of Muslims

Koilwar has a number of castemen living in amity There are about 500 Muslim families, 400 Goalas, 250 Baniyas, 200 Mallahs, 200 Rajputs, 150 Pasis, 100 Brahmans, 100 Cobblers, 80 Goldsmiths, 38 Potters and 25 Dusadhs The figures are approximate. The main occupation is agriculture but there are also some of the castemen following their caste occupation Peculiarly enough, Koilwar with the facility of a good availability of land which could be utilised for a factory site, communication, etc, has not developed industrially Koilwar exports quite a lot of fish from Sone river and fish of Sone river is supposed to be very tasty The site of the two villages Koilwar and Kulharia rather gives the impression that because of the proximity of the city of Patna on one side and the district headquarters of Arrah on the other, these two villages with a future are now somnolent The human resources of both the villages have been exploited by the towns and many of the talented people have not only left the villages but have ceased thinking of developing their villages Koilwar with its natural scenery and being on a first class road from Patna or Arrah (Patna is about 26 miles from Koilwar and 12 miles from Arrah) could have been developed into a township with a picnic spot with modern facilities. Fishing and shooting of birds could have been exploited to add to the attraction of Koilwar The possibility of cold storage for fish and for starting other small industrial ventures might be examined

Kulharia family.—The family known as the Kulharia family is an ancient and illustrious family and various members of this family have great contributions The late Saligram Singh and his brother late Bisheshwar Singh founded the Bihar National College in Patna. Saligram Singh had a large practice in the Calcutta High Court. After his death his portrait was unveiled in the Calcutta High Court by Sir Lawrence Jenkins, Chief Justice. He was also a member of the Bengal Legislative Council for a number of years. Saligram Singh and his brother Bisheshwar Singh were devoted Congressmen. They formed the first batch of delegates from Bihar to join the second session of the Indian National Congress held in Calcutta in 1886 The family tradition of doing good to the district and the State has been continued by his son Sri Chandra Shekhar Prasad

Singh and grandson Sri Harballabh Narain Singh. The family has often helped the administration in matters like scarcity or communal riots In 1942 Movement, one of the members of the family received several bullet wounds but luckily survived Sri Harballabh Narain Singh had been associated with several public institutions and was the Honorary Secretary of the Bihar National College, Patna.

LOHRA—This village with an area of 1,783 acres is situated on the Kaimur hills at a distance of about six miles from Adhaura, the block headquarters, towards the south-east and 42 miles from Bhabua, the subdivisional headquarters The village is approachable by a *katcha* road of the Forest Department There are 61 households and a population of about 302 persons (1964)

There is a *gram panchayat*, and lower primary school Its building is under construction. A community hall, a co-operative godown and 12 rural houses for Adivasis are under construction in the village This is an Adivasi village.

MAHADEOPUR—Regarding Mahadeopur the *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), mentions as follows—

"A village in the extreme south of the sadr subdivision, ten miles south of Piro, containing the ruins of an old brick temple which General Cunningham considered the most curious specimen of brick architecture he had ever seen It was 42 feet high, containing an upper and a lower chamber, and the top is crowned by a pinnacle of singular design, which in general appearance resembles two huge mushrooms one above the other This pinnacle is similar to that which is believed to have crowned the fane at Bodh Gaya, and the temple corresponds in many features with that shrine as it existed before its restoration (*see* Vols XIV and XIX Reports, A S. I)" *

Dr D. R Patil has given details of the temples and mentions—"What is, however, most striking is the total absence of figure-sculptures and other carvings at the Mahadeopur temple, as may be inferred from the accounts of both Cunningham and Garrick Local tradition says that the temple was built by two Kayasth brothers, named Raimal and Saimal, of whose date and history nothing is so far known "†

This village is under the Tarari police-station and Tarari Block with headquarters at Piro It is about 10 miles south of Piro The nearest railway station is Piro on the Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway. One can travel from Arrah up to Piro either by a bus or light railway and from Piro up to this village either by a cycle or an *ekka* or a bullock-cart From Piro up to Mahadeopur a *kutcha* road runs which becomes almost useless during the rains.

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), page 172

† *The Antiquarian Remains in Bihar* by Dr D. R Patil (Patna), 1963, page 246.

According to the Census of 1951, its thana number is 157 and the area of the village is 341 acres There are 82 occupied houses. The total population of the village is 533 souls (275 males and 258 females) out of which 62 persons (60 males and two females) have been enumerated as literate*. The figures of 1961 Census are not available

MASAR—A village in the Sadar subdivision, about six miles west of Arrah town. The village is under the jurisdiction of Arrah Muffasil police station This village is in the Block with headquarters at Udwantnagar

Masar has been identified with the *Mo-ho-so-lo* of the Chinese pilgrim Hiuen Tsiang and from his account, it appears that Masar must have been close to the river Ganga which is now flowing at a distance of about 10 miles north of the village

The old name of the village, as proved by the seven inscriptions in the Jain temple of Parasnath, was Mahasara but the original name is said to have been Sonitpur, famous as the residence of Banasura or Bana Raja, whose daughter Usha or Ukha was married to Aniruddha, a grandson of Lord Krishna † According to General Cunningham Masar town was originally called Padmavatiputra, till a Jain Kshatriya of Marwar, named Vimalnatha, became proprietor, when its name was changed to Mahasara‡

'*Maha*' means large and '*Sara*' means tank The legend is that near the village there was a large tank which extended over 52 *bighas* during the time of Banasura Masar is the crude form (*apabhransha*) of the word Mahasara There is a tank in the village which is almost silted up It is also said that this place was previously known as '*Mallasandh*' '*Malla*' means 'wrestler' and '*sandh*' means bull It is said that Banasura had constructed an *akhara* near the village and it has been identified by the villagers with a mound near the Karisath railway station Masar is the crude form of '*Mallasandh*' Some also believe that there had been two *janapadas* here, namely, '*Karusha*' and '*Malad*'. '*Karusha*' has been replaced by Karisath and '*Malad*' by Masar

The village is mentioned in the Statistical Account by Hunter, the old District Gazetteer (1924) and the District Census Hand-Book, 1951, as Masar.

The village is connected both by rail and road communications. The nearest railway station Karisath, on the main line of the Eastern Railway is at a distance of about one and half miles from

* *District Census Hand Book of Shahabad* (1951), page 156.

† Tejpur in Assam also claims to have been called Sonitpur, and the capital of this Raja

‡ Sources of Information—(1) *Hunter's Account* (1877), pages 214-215; (2) *Imperial Gazetteer of India, Bengal, Volume II*, page 72; and (3) *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), pages 172 173.

the village. On Arrah-Buxar Road, at a distance of about five miles from Arrah town, there is a village Bibiganj, from where a mile long *katcha* road leads to the village Masar The river Banas is to the east of the village. Banas emerges from the foot-hills of Gaya and is a perennial stream.

The area of the village according to 1951 Census is 2,271 acres. There are 343 number of occupied houses *

According to the *Imperial Gazetteer of India* (Bengal, Volume II, page 72), the population of the village in 1901 was 3,073 persons and during 1951 census,† the population was 2,782 persons, i e, 1,202 males and 1,580 females The *Mukhiya* reported to the investigator that the present (September, 1963) population of the village is about 4,000

According to the census of 1951* there were 529 persons (491 males and 38 females) literate in the village The 1961 Census figures are not yet available (October, 1963)

There are one branch post office and one Multipurpose Co-operative Society in the village The village is electrified and a number of villagers have taken electric connections There is an electric tube well which supplies water for irrigation purposes to a portion of cultivable land The village is under the Package Programme of the State Government. The village has got a number of mango orchards There is also one flour mill The cottage industries are basket-making and the making of winnowing fans

There is one high school known as Masar High School which was established in 1948 and has got at present eight teachers and 300 students There are also one upper primary school, one *Balbari* organised under *Samaj Kalyan Pariyojana* of the State Government and one *maktab*. Besides there are three libraries, viz, Sri Saraswati Pustakalaya, Sarva Hitaishi Pustakalaya and Janta Pustakalaya

The village has got three temples, viz, the temple of Parasnath, a Shiva temple and a Devi temple Besides, the relics of several Brahmanical gods and goddesses are found in the village

Regarding the temple of Parasnath the *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), mentions that it was completed in 1819 A D It had eight Jain images on which there were several inscriptions dating back to 1386 A D when some Jain Rathors from Marwar settled here The image of Parasnath contains an inscription which mentions that the image was dedicated by Sri Shankar Lal of Aramnagar 'during the prosperous English rule over the *Karusha-desa*' It is of interest because it identifies the district of Shahabad

* *District Census Hand-Book of Shahabad*, 1951, page 128.

† *Ibid.* Also see *Temples and Legends of Bihar* by P. C Roy Chaudhry, 1965,

with the ancient *Karusha-desha* of the *Puranas*. It also appears from the inscription that Arrah town was known as Aramnagar. There are a number of other relics. The same Jain temple accommodates a Shiva shrine where a *lingam* is installed and regularly worshipped.

The Devi temple is of recent years but the image enshrined in the temple appears to be quite old. On a local investigation it was observed that though the image is known as Devi a goddess, but the image is of a male god. The image itself is in a sitting posture and the foot is rested on a peacock. A peacock is associated as the *vahan* of Kartik or Saraswati but as the image is of a male, the image cannot be of Saraswati, a goddess. The male deity appears to be *Kartik*. The image is of black rough stone and the whole face is plastered with vermilion or *sindur* and the features are not clear. There appears to be scope for investigation as to the identity of this image according to the canons of Hindu iconography.*

The antiquity and ancient ruins of Masar have been described with fuller details by Dr. D. R. Patil who has given more information collected in 1918-19.†

A large Vishnu image found near Karisath railway station is now preserved in the Patna Museum. The local tradition identifies this to be the mythical Banasura Raja.

The Jain temple is managed by a religious trust of Arrah known as Manilal Trust. The daily offerings are coloured yellow *arwa* rice, *kamalgatta kesar*, flowers, etc. The annual *puja* takes place in the month of *Shravana* when hundreds of Jains visit the place and do their *Bandana*. The Shiva temple is on the same site. The Jain temple has a dome at the top and the temple is about 30 feet high. On the eve of *Shivaratri* and in the month of *Shravana* the deity of Lord Shiva is worshipped with great pomp and hundreds of pilgrims visit. During this time the offerings consist of the leaves and flowers of *akwan* plant, flowers of *kanail* plant, *dhatura* and *bhang*, etc.

Masar has a big *mela* on the *Chaitra Navami* and *Vijaya Dashmi*. The *melas* are largely attended and there is a good turnover of sale and purchase.

MER.- The last District Gazetteer does not mention Mer. The following quotation is from D. R. Patil :—

The village is situated about 10 miles south-east of Chainpur, q.v. and its antiquarian remains are found first noticed by Buchanan, whose information was utilised without much addition by the Bengal List, which is the latest account available on it. Buchanan noticed here the ruins of a temple consisting then only of

* The Antiquarian Remains in Bihar by Dr. D. R. Patil (Patna), 1963.
† Ibid, pages 271—276.

a platform with the debris of numerous carved stones, images, etc., lying on it. It appears from his description that the temple was richly carved, for he refers to numerous images amongst the ruins, such as fourteen armed Ganesa, 'a Nrisingha supporting religious persons reclined against an immense Linga, and a Linga with four heads supported by a fish ' -Nearby he observed a tank from the bottom of which was recovered by him a life-size image representing according to him, 'a fat man sitting, and resembling the images called Kuber in Behar'. Buchanan likened the ruins to those seen by him at Baidyanath, q v, in the same district and attributed them to the Suirs The images described by him would appear to be quite curious iconographically and it seems the temple, to which they once belonged, should be dated to the later Gupta or early medieval period It should be noted that the Mundesvari hill, q v., containing later Gupta ruins, is hardly seven miles to the north-west of Mer and considering the comparatively fewer Hindu remains of this age in Bihar the place deserves to be explored more fully and systematically".*

MOHANIA.—Headquarters of Mohania police-station and Community Development Block in Bhabua subdivision and is situated on the Grand Trunk Road. The Bhabua Road Station of the Grand Chord Line of the Eastern Railway is situated contiguous to this village It is a market dealing in large quantities of paddy, rice, wheat, gram, *khesari*, *masoor* and also *mangiatla* which are obtained locally and exported outside the district

MUNDESVARI TEMPLE.—Mundesvari temple on a summit of an isolated hill about 600 feet high at village Ramgarh. seven miles north-west of Bhabua is the oldest Hindu monument in Bihar and the earliest specimen of the *Nagara* type of temple architecture available in Bihar The temple is in the shape of an octagon and octagonal ground plan for a temple is rather rare In the Mundesvari temple there are doors or corridors on the four sides and small niches for the reception of statues in the remaining four walls The principal entrance is to the east where there are a few pillars although the portico which the pillars supported has disappeared. There is a *lingam* with four heads and a statue of Durga inside the temple There is some fine latticed stone work on one of the windows The temple door facing the porch is a fine specimen of architecture with various figures of dancers and musicians. An inscription was found broken into pieces and the inscriptions have been interpreted by some to identify the origin of the temple to 635 A.D. The inscription refers to Udayasena as the ruling chief and records various donations to Mandalesvara

* *The Antiquarian Remains in Bihar* by Dr D R Patil (Patna), 1963, pages 274 275.

Gupta style is apparent in the carvings. On the eastern slope of the hills there has been a find of a number of statues and rock-carved figures. It is clear that the hill was once the site for a cluster of temples and the Mundesvari temple was the main shrine.

The image of Mundesvari is not typical of that of *Mahisamardini*. Mundesvari deity has ten hands bearing the usual weapons of a *Mahisamardini* but with the difference that she is not in the act of killing *Mahisasur*, the demon in the shape of a buffalo but she is shown as riding a buffalo representing a demon

Mundesvari is the principal deity in the temple The deity, however, does not occupy the centre of the *cella* but is installed in one of the sub-chambers of the sanctuary At this centre of the *cella* there is a *Mukhalingam* with four faces but this has not got the honour of being the presiding deity

According to Dr K C Panigrahi, sometime a Superintendent of the Eastern Archaeological Circle, the presiding deity of the territory was originally a *Narayana* or *Vishnu* and, in 348–59 A D., another new deity *Vinitesvara* was set up The *Narayana* image has disappeared and the *Vinitesvara* is the *Mukhalingam* This was set up in 348 49 A D by Dandanayaka Gomibhata

The Mundesvari inscription is of great epigraphic importance The inscription was interpreted by Prof R D Banerjee and the date assigned was 656 A D which was also taken to be the date of the temple This is what was repeated in the *District Gazetteers of Shahabad* in 1906 and 1924 But this view stands exploded.

Mr N G Mazumdar held the date of the inscription to be 348 49 A D and Dr D R Bhandarkar considered the inscription to be earlier than the 4th century A D

Dr Panigrahi has taken the three names in the inscriptions, namely, *Narayana*, *Vinitesvara* and *Mandalesvara* to be three separate deities and traces in the inscriptions three periods of religious history of the shrine According to Dr. Panigrahi originally this was a *Vaishnava* shrine with *Narayana* as the presiding deity, succeeded near about 7th century A D by *Shaivism* and *Vinitesvara* originally a subsidiary deity became the presiding deity Later Mundesvari or a *Mahisamardini* image was installed when *Shaktism* had supplanted *Shaivism* *Mandalesvara* means the Lord or the presiding deity of the *Mandala* (district) and cannot mean Siva *Narayana* mentioned in the inscription cannot be the same deity as Mandalesvara and Mandalesvara cannot be distorted into Mundesvari as held by Prof R D Banerjee

Dr Panigrahi thinks that with the passage of time and change in religious history, Mundesvari, a *Parsva-devata* in the *Shaiva* shrine of *Vinitesvara*, became the presiding deity of the temple. According to him the transposition took place during the rule of the

Cheros, a powerful aboriginal tribe. The Chero kings were worshippers of *Shakti* and Mundesvari as an emblem of *Shakti* came to be worshipped as the principal deity of the temple although she held a minor position in the actual location of the image. The *Mukhalingam* occupying the major position at the centre of the *cella* became a minor image. Dr Panigrahi's researches have not yet been controverted

Round about the Mundesvari temple there are several half *Amalaks* The *Sikhara* of the temple is not in existence but a fragment of the *amalaka* originally crowning the spire is still lying in the site The sculptures on the *Chaitya*-windows *Kirtti-mukhas,* lotus meddalions, foliated Vase-capitals scrolles, etc, show the clear impress of the Gupta style The temple has some erotic figures

A big *mela* is held near the Mundesvari temple during the *Navaratri.* The *mela* is visited by even more than ten thousand persons *

NASRIGANJ TOWN —A town situated on the bank of the Sone and on the Koilwar-Dehri Road and Arrah-Dehri Canal is the headquarters of Nasriganj Development Block and the police station It is about 50 miles towards south-east from Arrah, the district headquarters It has an area of 400 square miles with 1,426 households. The total population of the town according to 1961 Census is 8,920, i e, 4,481 males and 4,439 females †

The *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) mentioned that Nasriganj was a large village in the north-east of Sasaram subdivision with a population of 5,332 (1921) It was a large Government State forming part of the Nasriganj *mahal* which escheated to Government in 1867 on the death without heirs, of the proprietress. With Hariharganj it was a seat of a large trade and was formerly a considerable manufacturing centre It had lost the commercial importance which it possessed fifty years ago, where there were 21 manufacturers of papers and 42 sugar refineries It contained

* The following may be consulted —

1 *An Account of the District of Shahabad*, 1812 13 by Francis Buchanan

2 *Temple of Mundesvari* by Dr K C Panigrahi—*Journal of Bihar Research Society* 8, *Vol XLIV*, Parts 1 2

3 *Ep Ind*, *Vol IX*, page 289 ff and the plate

4 *Ind. Ant Vol XLIX*, 1920, page 21 ff

5 *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1906), pages 146-147

6 *Ibid* 1924), page 173

7 *The Antiquarian Remains in Bihar* by Dr D R. Patil (Patna), 1968, pages 291—298.

8 *Temples and Legends of Bihar* by P C Roy Chaudhry (Bombay), 1965

† *Census of India, Volume IV*, Bihar Part II-A, General Population Tables published from Superintendent of Census Operations, Bihar, Patna, page 31.

a large turbine oil, sugar and flour mill and the manufacture of paper was carried on on a small scale*.

In 1941 Nasriganj came to be treated as a town in the census. The town is connected by both road and waterways. A large number of buses have been running connecting Nasriganj with Bikramganj, Dehri-on-Sone, Sasaram, Bhabua and Arrah. On the average about 500 persons daily come to the town or go out of it by buses. Boats come by the Dehri-Arrah canal. The main roads in the town are metalled. The Nasriganj Union Committee maintains about 2.5 miles of *pucca* roads within the town. The vehicles within the town are buses, rickshaws, cycles and *tamtams*. There are some private cars and taxis.

The town has one District Board Dak Bungalow and an Irrigation Department Inspection Bungalow. There are also some cheap roadside eating houses, tea shops and a few hotels of a poor standard.

The town has one lower primary school with 150 students and four teachers, one *maktab* with 100 students and two *maulvis*, one upper primary school with 200 students and four teachers and one higher secondary school with 600 students and 15 teachers. The town has two libraries including one Muslim Library. The readership is not more than 25 persons a day.

The Nasriganj Union Committee looks after the sanitation, roads, water supply, etc. The sanitary condition of the town is poor. A conservancy staff of eight persons headed by a jamadar is maintained for the sanitation work of the town. Very few houses have lavatories. The Nasriganj Union Committee has set up ten hand-pumps and a few wells for supply of drinking water. Electricity has been made available since 1960. About 600 houses have been electrified.

The town has a State Dispensary with eight beds. Prior to 1956 the dispensary was maintained by the District Board but was provincialised in 1956. 1,437 outdoor patients and 210 indoor patients were treated in 1963-64. The dispensary building is in a dilapidated condition at present (April, 1964). The town has some private allopathic, homeopathic and *Ayurvedic* practitioners.

The town has a police station, a post office including a public call telephone office, a class I veterinary dispensary, a slaughter house and a liquor shop. It was personally observed that about 50 persons visit the liquor shop daily.

Industries.—It may be noted that Nasriganj has had a decline as an industrial centre. It has been mentioned in the Statistical Account of Bengal by W. W. Hunter† that Nasriganj was one of the

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* District Gazetteer of *Shahabad* (1924), page 174.

† W. W. Hunter's *A Statistical Account of Bengal*, Vol. XII (1877), pp. 258-259.

important centres of large-scale industries, namely, sugar and paper. Both were manufactured on the indigenous manual process but gave employment to a fairly large population. About 79 maunds of sugar were manufactured every month. Paper was manufactured at Hariharganj with which Nasriganj formed an escheated estate The material used in manufacturing paper was *tat* or refuse cloth The paper found a market in Lucknow, Allahabad and other towns

Both these cottage industries became extinct even before the sugar and paper mills were started at Dehri.

The blanket weaving industry of Nasriganj, however, persists The units at Nasriganj employ about 100 persons including females and produce blankets worth about Rs 1 lakh annually.

The weavers purchase wool from the local market, Jhansi, Mirzapur and Panipat A few of the units get their supplies of yarn from Bihar State Khadi and Village Industries Board, Patna The equipment of weavers generally consists of hand operated looms, pedal *charkhas* and Bihar type *charkhas* Most of the weavers are hereditary artisans The market price of the black wool ranges between Rs 100 to Rs 125 per maund, and Rs 200 to Rs 250 per maund for white wool There is, however, one joint stock company, namely, Bihar *Charkha Kambal Ashram,* Nasriganj established in 1940 The main function of the *Ashram* is to import raw materials from the local and outside markets and manufacture the blankets The *Ashram* takes loan from the State Government It now employs about ten weavers and maintains six handlooms During 1948-49 it had employed about 250 weavers and maintained 150 handlooms

The reasons for the decline is due to the fact that the Ashram is unable to compete with the blankets turned out by the Bihar *Khadi Gramodyog Sangh* This unit does not give any rebate to the consumers whereas the *Khadi Gramodyog* gives a liberal rebate It is difficult also for them to compete with the cheaper blankets made by power looms

There is a Blanket Weavers' Co-operative Society at Nasriganj established in 1959 At present (April, 1961) there are 33 members of the society and it has advanced about Rs 3,300 to the weavers.

The other cottage industries are preparing ropes from *Sabai* grass, manufacture of soap and pressing oil by *ghani* (manual crushing machines). There are about 100 persons engaged in rope-making, mostly females as a part-time occupation *Sabai* grass is obtained from Muni Semal in Mirzapur district, Chenari in Shahabad district, Sahebganj Karwalia and Hosiarpur in the Punjab. Sometimes it is also obtained from Narkatiaganj in Champaran district, and ropes have a ready market within the district There

is a Rope Making Industrial Co-operative Society at Nasriganj since 1961 About 40 persons are engaged in making ordinary washing soap The goods are consumed within the district. There is a Soap Making Industrial Co-operative Society since 1960. About 30 persons are engaged in extracting oil from oil-seeds purchased locally There is an Oilmen's Industrial Co-operative Society in Nasriganj.

The other cottage industries of Nasriganj are pottery, carpentry and blacksmithy Pottery employs about 120 persons, the majority of which are females About 30 males are engaged in carpentry and cart wheels Agricultural implements are turned out by about 50 blacksmiths The produce of these cottage industries has a ready market within the district The cottage industries are given credit by the State *Khadi* and Village Industries Board, Patna, Industries Department and the Block Development Office.

Nasriganj has a big grain market There are eight rice mills and ten grain-*golas* Besides the daily transaction in the grain market there is a *hat* on every Tuesday and Friday There are also six flour mills The town has six fair price shops.

Nasriganj was once an important centre for catch of fish and its export The source of supply is the river Sone But now the water of the river Sone near Nasriganj is polluted by the foul water discharged from the factories at Dehri and Nasriganj, fish has lost its market The local consumers complain that the fish caught near Nasriganj have a bad smell and taste The wild ducks in winter are rare now

NAUHATTA.—This village is at a distance of about 87 K.M from the Sasaram subdivision It is the headquarters of Block office of the same name A District Board road passes through this village The nearest railway station, namely, Nauhatta Road Station of the Dehri Rohtas Light Railway is at a distance of three miles

The village has an area of 1,229 acres with a population of 1,777 persons, i.e., 993 males and 844 females according to the census of 1961 as supplied by the block office.

This village is inhabited by Brahman, Rajput, Koiri and other Backward Castes and Harijans The main produce are paddy, chillies maize etc

There is a statutory Gram Panchayat in the village. There are two flour mills, one library, one health sub-centre, one post office one club and a *Kirtan Mandali* in the village A weekly *hat* is held on Wednesday

There are a middle school (from class I to VII) and a girls' lower primary school in the village

NATWAR.—A village under Dinara police-station in Sasaram subdivision is situated on Bikramganj-Kochas Bus route. It deals in paddy, rice, wheat, *khesari*, linseed and potato obtained locally and exported outside the district

NOKHA.—Headquarters of Nokha thana in Sasaram subdivision is situated on the Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway and Bus route. It has a number of rice mills. It deals in large quantities of paddy and rice amounting to more than two lakh quintals of each, of which paddy is imported from within the district and consumed in the local rice mills and the rice obtained locally and exported outside the district. There are a number of wholesalers in this village. Nokha is also the headquarters of an Irrigation subdivision. The village is very congested.

NUAON —Nuaon is under Ramgarh police-station (Bhabhua subdivision) and Ramgarh Block. It is important for cattle fairs which are held four times in a year in the months of *Phalgun, Baisakh, Jeth* and *Kartik*. On each occasion the *mela* lasts for ten days. On the average about 25,000 cattle are sold and purchased. People from the neighbouring districts, namely, Ghazipur, Varanasi (both in Uttar Pradesh), Gaya, Palamau (Bihar), etc, also bring cattle for sale It has got a health sub-centre also

The village is a big marketing centre It deals mainly in paddy, rice and wheat, obtained and consumed locally

ODAR —Odar is in Bhabhua police-station under Bhabhua sub division and Bhabhua Block It is of local importance because of two cattle fairs which are held in the months of *Magh* and *Chaitra*

PATNA —Dr Buchanan had visited this village also during his tours of the district in 1812-13 and has left an account of the same in his memoirs *

As regards this village the *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), gives the following details —

"At Patna, a few miles south of Garo-hat in the Bhabhua subdivision, are a number of ruins attributed locally to the Savars or Suirs. The chief of these is a mass of rude stones, broken bricks and earth, 780 feet long from east to west and 1,080 feet from north to south, reaching in some parts to a height of forty or fifty feet above the ground East of this again is another mass of similar length, but of smaller height and breadth, while north of the village of Sriampur is another elevation, consisting of stones, bricks and earth, and to the south is a circular mound called Baghban (*see* List of Ancient Monuments in Bengal 1895) "†

* Journal of Francis Buchanan, District of Shahabad in 1812-13, page 119, Patna, 1926

† *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), page 174.

This village has been referred to by Dr. D. R. Patil* as Patana and it appears that Buchanan had also referred to this village as Patana. Dr D R Patil after summarising Buchanan's description of the four mounds mentions --"Buchanan does not specifically refer to carvings or antiquities, if any, observed by him on the mounds themselves. But near the village Patana he noticed, under a tree, some broken images 'in the style of those at Baidyanath (cf. p. 9 above), especially fragments of the quadrangular obelisks'. The collection included a *linga* and the largest of them all was an image which Buchanan took to be a representation of 'Mahavira, the war-like monkey'. A mile south of Patana, at the village Pateshwar also he noticed a collection of 'many fragments of carved stones' and an image of Mahavira or Hanuman, as he could identify it, recovered recently from a tank. The Bengal List calls it an image of Hara (?). From what Buchanan says of the mounds and from the antiquities it appears there is much in common between them and those found at Baidyanath in the same district.

Buchanan was told that the ruins represent 'the capital city of Nandain, from its having been the residence of a Hindu Raja of the Sun or Suria tribe'. From the extensive nature of the site and from the tradition attached to it, the place would appear to be of considerable historical and archaeological interest. It is likely some of the mounds may represent Saiva temples. The place had never been examined or explored after Buchanan's visit. It, therefore, awaits a thorough exploration in future."

According to 1951 Census its thana number is 684 and the area 66 acres containing 52 occupied houses. The total population of the village is 287 souls (152 males and 135 females) out of which only 36 males have been enumerated as literate. The figures of 1961 census are not available.

PIPARDIH.—Pipardih is a tribal village under Rohtas police-station and Nauhatta Community Development Block in Sasaram subdivision. According to the census of 1951,† its thana number is 620 and has a total area of 12,715 with 209 number of occupied houses. The total population of the village is 930 souls (469 males and 461 females) out of which only 13 males are literate. There is a Lower Primary School also. The figures for 1961 census are not available. The village was personally studied.

Pipardih was an insignificant village in Rohtas thana of Shahabad district. It had a few straggling huts of Adibasis and a few other people who eked out an existence from the jungle produce and a little grain they could get scratching the hill slopes of the Kaimur Range. The village is on the river Sone and on the

* *The Antiquarian Remains in Bihar* by Dr. D R Patil (Patna), 1963, page 367.

† *District Census Hand Book of Shahabad* (1951), page 298.

opposite side could be seen the Japla Cement Factory in Palamau district. The nearest railway station was Rohtas about 18 miles away. There was no road but a bridle path and tigers were common. A murder probably would not have been reported ten years back in this area before three or four days.

The picture of Pipardih has now been changed. Bull-dozers busily shuttling back and forth has made a jeepable road possible from Rohtas to Pipardih (1963). The road has innumerable ups and downs, big boulders are still to be seen on the off side and a number of streams have to be negotiated which run with swift current in the rainy season though for a brief hour. One has to hold fast to the jeep lest he is thrown out. The narrow gauge of Dehri-Rohtas line has now been extended up to Pipardih, an enterprise of the Sahu Jains with a view to exploit the vast resources of limestone in the Kaimur Range. The extension was thrown open recently and now two passenger trains up and down form the life-line of Pipardih. About 100 passengers get down at Pipardih from each of the trains. But the importance of Pipardih and the limestone quarry that is being worked will be appreciated from the fact that about 26 goods trains up and down touch Pipardih.

Giant bull-dozers are still working to carve out level patches out of the jungles and hills, slopes for the hutments, workshops, hospitals and offices of those that are working in the limestone quarries. The village-scape of Pipardih is fast changing. About 3,000 workers are engaged in slicing off limestones and doing other work in this connection. The Adivasis of the neighbouring villages like Nagatoli, Rehatkua, Kuba, Barka Budhua, Chhotka Budhua, etc., have found ready employment and their women folk could be seen happily working with silver trinkets on their ear and neck. The indigenous Kols, Cheros, Ganjhus of the neighbourhood form a happy band which make up about 50 per cent of the workers while the rest come from Mirzapur, Palamau and other districts of Bihar and a few from outside the State. A small hospital, a creche and a canteen are taking shape. The water scarcity problem in the summer is being boldly tackled and the chugging train at times of water scarcity brings water in wagons from Baulia station a few miles away to supplement the local supply from wells. A weekly *hat* on Sunday brings vegetables, eggs and chickens and a small quantity of fish. In the summer milk becomes scarce as most of the cows are sent away to the pastures in Palamau district beyond the Sone river which belts Pipardih.

The inaccessibility of the area would be underlined by the fact that due to lack of accommodation the office of the Nauhatta Community Development Block covering this area was officially sited about six miles away at Baulia from where it has now shifted to Nauhatta in June, 1963. Accommodation for the Block has now

been provided Pipardih about 50 miles from Dehri-on-Sone by road and 42 miles by train is a substantial contribution to the industrialisation of Bihar by feeding the Cement Factories at Japla and Dehri-on-Sone A visit to Pipaidih in summer breaks monotony of one's daily life and the bright red *paras* flowers jostling out of bamboo jungles offer a feast to the eye and one may be fortunate to see a bear nibbling at *mahua* flowers or a leopard sneaking out. The majestic tigers have moved out as they did not like the intrusion of men, bull-dozers and the railways.

PIRO—Headquarters of Piro police-station and Community Development Block in Sadar subdivision is situated on the Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway and on the Arrah-Sasaram road. Its main item of trade is rice obtained locally and exported to Chapra and Patna. *Hats* are held here on Tuesdays and Saturdays There is a Roman Catholic Church The village is growing into a township It has an inspection bungalow The market is growing There are a State Dispensary and a Class I Veterinary Dispensary. There is also a private nursing home with 12 beds There is a network of canal system and the lands are fertile. There is a big tank which is, however, not much used for fish culture

RAGHUNATHPUR—This village is claimed to be associated very closely with Sant Tulsidas who composed *Ramcharitmanas* so very popular throughout the Hindi-speaking tracts of India There is an elevated octagonal shaped high platform which is said to have been the place where Tulsidas used to sit and meditate Tulsidas is being claimed to have been born at Rajapur, a *bechiragi* adjoining village. The mound referred to has now been renovated and a modern marble sculpture of Sant Tulsidas has been installed on its top There is an *idgah* to the north-west of the Tulsi *chantra*. The *idgah* is of Muslim period and probably built before the Mughals The front fence of the *idgah* is a modern construction. It is claimed that Tulsidas used to pass his nights at this *idgah* referred to in a couplet by him.

In this connection it may be mentioned that Tulsidas is claimed also to have been born at village Rajapur (Banda district), near Soro in Itawa district, and at Rajapur in Barabanki district but the argument that Tulsidas was born at Rajapur adjoining Raghunathpur and was closely associated with the Tulsi *mandap* at Raghunathpur has some force There is documentary evidence to show that Tulsidas and his family owned some lands at Raghunathpur. Stray references to his couplets are also mentioned to support this claim. It is not necessary to enter into the controversy whether the language of *Ramcharitmanas* is Awadhi or Bhojpuri The enthusiasts of the theory that Tulsidas was born in Shahabad district assert that verbs and the inflexions and various expressions in *Ramcharitmanas* make out the languages to be Bhojpuri. It

remains a fact, however, that the *Ramcharitmanas* has a tremendous influence in this area. A *samadhi* by the side of the Tulsi *mandap* is said to be that of Karandas, one of the disciples of the poet.

This is a large village in Brahampur police-station of Buxar subdivision. It adjoins Brahampur where a huge *mela* is held. The village has a population of about 5,000 persons It is approachable both by railway and by road. It has a railway station of the same name. It is about 29 miles west of Arrah. The main export from Raghunathpur railway station is livestock (buffaloes and cows). They are exported mostly to Calcutta The village trades in paddy, rice, wheat, *masoor*, *gur* and potato, obtained and consumed locally. *Hats* are held here on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

The village is electrified but very few houses have electric connection No industry run on power is functioning here. The sanitation of the village is poor. The *katcha* roads in the village are in a very bad condition. It becomes difficult to go round the village specially in the rainy season

There is a mound by the side of a tank and in the neighbour hood there is a small mosque (*idgah*) It is said that the *idgah* is of the Mughal period There is a temple called *panch mandir*, because it has five idols of Siva, Hari, Shakti, Hanuman and Parvati In front of this temple there is a big tank kept in a bad condition The temple was built on a donation made by a *Bania* resident It is said that the villager won about one lakh of rupees in gambling and out of that he built the temple. The temple is also called *Jua* (gambling) temple.

The village has a post office with a public call office, an inspection bungalow, one upper primary school and one middle school. There are about six *atta chakkis* in the village The main occupation of the villagers is cultivation. The lands are fertile and there is a tube-well for irrigation purposes There is a good turnover of business in grains.

The village has a sizeable population of Harijans and they have got their own colony.

There is a tomb of one Shah Rahmatullah about 1½ miles north of the village People of all castes and communities congregate here on every Friday specially for the treatment of people supposed to be afflicted with evil spirits The afflicted persons get into a sort of trance and undergo various types of physical torture. The visitors offer oblation on the tomb An *urs* is also held on the tomb in the month of *Rajjab* (a Muslim month) About five to six hundred people congregate here on that occasion.

RAGHUVIRGADH.—This village was not noticed in the last District Gazetteer The village, rather a fort, is situated near Patna or Patana on a low rocky ridge extending west from Pateshwar

village. Buchanan had visited this village and thought the fort was erected by one of the Bhar chiefs and it resembled more an European castle, occupying the whole summit of the hill, and a deep ditch separated it from the village. In one of the bastions there is a Muslim tomb.

RAMGADH.—The last *District Gazetteer* does not mention this village which has remarkable old ruins The following quotation is from Dr. D. R. Patil's *The Antiquarian Remains in Bihar*:—

"The village Ramgadh is situated about five miles north of Baidyanath (cf. p. 9 above) and possesses old ruins which are first found referred to and described by Buchanan According to him the stone-built castle at Ramgadh is the oldest of the three strongholds of the Bhar chiefs in the district, the other two being Raghuvirgadh and Syamalgadh It was 'still pretty entire' at the time of Buchanan's visit in about 1812, and 'is placed on the steep ascent of a hill, commanding a narrow passage into a very wild valley' The castle consists of an enclosure wall, 8′ high, pierced with loopholes and has an open terrace towards the pass Higher up were four houses neatly built of stone masonry as seen by Buchanan in about 1812 In the pass facing the buildings was a reservoir linked with cut-stone Here Buchanan noticed an image of Mahishasuramarddini Durga indicating possibly the existence of a Saiva temple close by. Buchanan refers to an inscription dated V S 1858 (A D. 1801) referring to the local chief 'in which the family acknowledge the term Bhar'. The Ramgadh ruins are of some historical significance in view of their association with the Bhar tribe which is one of the interesting ruling tribes who played an important role in the history of ancient and medieval Bihar "*

RAMGARH —Headquarters of Ramgarh thana in Bhabhua subdivision is a village situated on Bhabhua-Noaon bus route. It has a small trade in paddy, rice and wheat obtained and consumed locally.

REHAL – This village is situated at a distance of six miles from Nauhatta and 40 miles from Sasaram, the subdivisional headquarters It is on the Kaimur hills at a height of about 2,400 feet. It is under the jurisdiction of Rohtas thana

The village has an area of 8 392 acres with a population of 779 persons, i e., 387 males and 392 females according to the census of 1961 as supplied by the block office

This village is inhabited by the tribals, namely, the Chero and Kharwar Besides tribals, such castes as Goala and Bania are also found in this village but their numerical strength is much less than that of the tribals

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* *The Antiquarian Remains in Bihar* by Dr D R Patil (Patna), 1963, page 482

This village has a library, a community hall, an Ayurvedic dispensary, a forest range office, two schools (one lower primary and the other upper primary). There is a statutory Gram Panchayat in the village and the *Mukhiya* is a tribal.

ROHTASGARH.—The old Gazetteer (1924) gives the following account of Rohtasgarh or Rohtas:—

'One of the most interesting places in the district is the ancient hill fort of Rohtas or Rohtasgarh, so called from the Prince Rohitaswa, son of Raja Haris Chandra of the solar dynasty, to whom the hill is sacred. Haris Chandra is the hero of one of the most beautiful legends of Hindu mythology. The story runs that Haris Chandra, a powerful monarch owning vast dominions, once went to hunt in a forest in which a *rishi*, Viswamitra, lived, and that while engaged in the chase, he disturbed the contemplations of the recluse. The hermit saint, offended at this intrusion on his retreat, resolved to punish Haris Chandra, and appearing one day when he was dispensing charity, induced him to promise to give whatever he asked. He then asked for his kingdom and all his worldly possessions, and the Raja bound by his vow at once fulfilled his promise. Thereupon, the importunate *rishi* demanded *dakshina* to complete the gift, and, in order to comply with his request, the destitute but pious Raja was obliged to sell his wife and son, Rohitaswa, to a Brahman, finally as the purchase money was still insufficient to satisfy Viswamitra, he sold himself to a Dom at Benares. The Dom placed Haris Chandra at the Manikarnika burning *ghat* with orders to collect fees from all who came to burn their dead; and shortly afterwards, Rohitaswa having died from snake-bite, his body was brought to the *ghat*. True to his master, Haris Chandra humbly demanded his dues, which owing to her poverty his wife was unable to pay. All that she could offer was the ragged cloth which covered her, and Haris Chandra then insisted on her giving at least a piece of this. At this moment, Viswamitra appeared, and, pleased at the piety of Haris Chandra and satisfied with his expiation, restored Rohitaswa to life and gave back his kingdom to his father. It is possible that this legend embodies in a mythical form an account of the early power of the aboriginal Doms, in East Bengal it is the belief of some Doms, calling themselves Haris Chandis, that, in return for their forefather's kindness, Raja Haris Chandra converted the whole tribe to his religion, and it is noticeable that the earliest traditions attached to Rohtasgarh point to its being the home and stronghold of autochthonous races. The tradition that Rohtas was once the seat of their race lingers among the Kharwars, Oraons and Cheros; the Kharwars call themselves Suryabansi and allege that, like Rohitaswa, they are descended from the sun, while the Cheros*

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* The Cheros of the Vindhyan plateau claim descent from the Nag or serpent. As Buchanan quaintly puts it, "they claim the honour of being descended from the great serpent, who is king of hell that is to say, the devil, which is considered as a very ancient and honourable connection".

claim that they held the plateau till they sallied forth for the co-quest of Palamau. Similarly, the Oraons assert that Rohtasga originally belonged to their chiefs and was finally wrested from th by the Hindus who surprised them at night during one of th great national festivals, when the men had fallen senseless fr intoxication, and only women were left to fight.

"*Hindu period.*—The only records of Hindu times connect with Rohtasgarh are a few short rock-cut inscriptions at various pla on the plateau The first, at Phulwari, dates back to 1169 A.D. a refers to the construction of a road up the hill by Pratapadhava the Nayaka or chief of Japila. Japila is evidently the mode Japla, on the opposite side of the Son, in the district of Palam and Pratapadhavala appears to have been a local chief, who is a known to us from two other inscriptions on the Tarachandi ro near Sasaram and at Tutrahi, five miles west of Tilothu. Fr another short inscription at Rohtasgarh we learn that this ch belonged to the *Khayaravalavansa;* and Professor Kielhorn l pointed* out that this name appears to survive in that of the tr of Kharwars The only other record of Hindu rule over the f is an inscription near the *Lal Darwaza,* dated 1223 A D., which m tions a descendant and successor of Pratapadhavala, called like h Pratapa.

"*Muhammadan period*—In 1539 A D, the fort passed from hands of its Hindu rulers to Sher Shah, who at that time was revolt against Humayun The story current is that Sher Sh having lost Chunar, determined to get possession of Rohtasgarh, a as the fort was impregnable, he was obliged to secure it by stratag He accordingly sent to the Hindu Raja who was in possession of fortress, and begged him to allow his family and treasure to rem there while he was engaged in the conquest of Bengal On consent being obtained, Sher Shah sent several hundred *dulis,* the first few of which were a few old women and in the remain Afghan soldiers and a quantity of arms On the arrival of the tr at the outer gate, the leading *dulis* were examined, and when t were found to contain only the women, the remainder were allo to enter. The Afghans then sprang out and attacked the gu while the bearers used their staves until they obtained arms from *dulis* The guard were easily overpowered, Sher Shah, who was camp close by was admitted; and the Hindu Raja fled, leaving Afghan masters of the fort

"During his campaign against Humayun, Sher Shah left women and children in this secure retreat, and throughout his re it was held by a strong garrison of ten thousand matchlock-men, was made the repository of "treasures without numbering or reck ing" Henceforth, Rohtasgarh is frequently mentioned by

* *Epigraphia Indica,* Vol IV, page 311, Note 10.

Muhammadan historians, who dilate on its strength and advantages. The Ain-i-Akbari refers to its great circuit of fourteen *kos* and states that the enclosed land was cultivated and full of springs and lakes, while in the rains there were no less than two hundred delightful cataracts. From other chronicles we learn that the steep ascent was guarded by three gates, one above the other, defended by guns and rolling stones; on the summit were towns, villages and corn-fields, and water was said to have been found in such abundance that if a peg was driven into the ground or a hole was dug, it welled up at once; in these circumstances, it is not altogether surprising to learn that the garrison had to be changed every four months.

"Man Singh, on being appointed viceroy of Bengal and Bihar, selected Rohtas as his stronghold; he had the fortifications put in complete repair, deepened and repaired the reservoirs, erected a palace for his own residence, and laid out a handsome garden in the Persian style. When he died, the fortress was attached to the office of Wazir of the Emperor, by whom the governors were appointed. In 1644 the governor of Rohtasgarh protected Shah Jahan's family when that prince was in rebellion against his father. The fort was immediately under an officer known as a *kiladar,* who had a guard of four or five hundred men and defrayed all expenses from the revenues of the estates which formed his *jagir;* these estates were managed by the *diwan* who was an officer of considerable authority in the fort. Besides these, there were about four thousand matchlock-men, whose duties consisted in guarding different parts of the plateau; they were recruited from outside and had to be constantly relieved because of the unhealthiness of the place. The regular garrison consisted of artillery-men who were permanently settled with their families in a village near the palace and were inured to the climate, they were under an officer known as the *hazari* or commander of a thousand men. After the defeat of Mir Kasim at Udhua Nullah in 1764, he despatched his wife with seventeen hundred other women and children, and much treasure, to Rohtas; but shortly afterwards, on Mir Kasim's final defeat at Buxar, the Begum left Rohtas with the treasure and joining her husband at Tilothu accompanied him in his retreat.

"Shah Mal, the diwan, then peaceably surrendered the fort to the English who advanced under Captain Goddard from Tikari. Captain Goddard remained there for about two months destroying meanwhile all military stores after which a guard remained for one year, when the place was finally abandoned. Since that time it has enjoyed a tranquillity broken only during the Mutiny, when Amar Singh and his followers infested the neighbourhood and several sharp melees took place. Finally, as it appeared that the mutineers intended to hold the place in force and to use it as a rallying point, a levy of 250 men was raised to occupy the fort, and a garrison remained there till the end of the Mutiny.

"Rohtasgarh is picturesquely situated on an outlying spur of the Kaimur hills, thirty miles from Dehri and 1,490 feet above sea level. To the left of the spur winds the valley of the Son with low wooded hills on its opposite bank and a higher range in the distance. To the right, the hills sweep round forming an immense and beautifully wooden amphitheatre about four miles deep, bounded with a continuation of the escarpment, and at the foot of the crowned spur is the village of Akbarpur nestling in the midst of undulating hills. The remains of the fortress occupy a part of the plateau about four miles from east to west, and five miles from north to south, with a circumference of nearly twenty eight miles. It is separated from the table-land on the north by a deep and wide recess, called the Karivari Khoh, a branch of which, Galariya Khoh, also separates it from the table-land to the west, leaving between its south end and the rock overhanging the Son a rocky peninsula or neck, about two hundred yards wide, with perpendicular sides There are about eighty paths up the rock accessible to men, which were all more or less fortified, while strong defensive works were constructed at the four great *ghats* from which access to the summit was most easily obtained The principal fortifications now existing are at Raja Ghat and Kathautiya, as the narrow neck joining Rohtas to the table land is called The latter was the most vulnerable part of the fortress, and the Hindus are said to have cut a moat across it as a defence against invasion Man Singh still further strengthened the defences in 1607 by adding some massive works which are the finest remains of the fortifications still extant These consist of two gates on the northern side of the neck about thirty yards apart with many winding passages and bulwarks attached, both they and the ditch are commanded by a double line of ramparts and bastions, which, rising along a low hill, tower sixty or seventy feet above the moat for a length of four hundred yards Further to the north across the plateau ran another line of defences, but the only part now standing is a fine gate, called the Lal Darwaza, from the red stone of which it was built

"*The palace.*—The ascent from Akbarpur, which is the one most commonly used, is over dry hills of limestone, covered with a scrubby brushwood, to a crest where are the first ruined defences and this is succeeded by a sandstone cliff, cut in places into rough steps, which lead from ledge to ledge and gap to gap, well guarded with walls and an archway of solid masonry Passing through this to the summit, a walk of about two miles leads to the palace, which was described by Sir Joseph Hooker as follows 'The buildings are very extensive and bear evidence of great beauty in the architecture light galleries supported by slender columns, long cool arcades, screened squares and terraced walks are the principal features The rooms open out upon flat roofs commanding views of the long endless table-land to the west and a sheer precipice of a thousand feet on the other side, with the Son,

the amphitheatre of hills and the village of Akbarpur below.' This estimate of the architectural merits of the palace is somewhat high, as the buildings cannot compare with relics of the same period in other parts of India; but they are of unique interest as being the only specimen of Mughal civil architecture in Bihar, and as affording a striking example of the conditions of military life under that empire. The palace is an irregular medley of buildings extending from north to south, and is entered from the west through a great courtyard enclosed by high walls On the inner side of this courtyard were the quarters which served as barracks for the troops and at its north-eastern corner is the chief gate of the palace. This consists of a massive arch flanked on either side by the figure of an elephant carved in stone, from which it derives the name of Hathiya Pol or the elephant gate, an inscription over the arch records that it was erected in 1597 by Man Singh It opens on to a large vaulted guard-room, passing through which one comes to the Barahduari, the best preserved structure in the palace, which is believed to have been used by the viceroy as his hall of audience In front is an open verandah, supported by four double columns, which leads into a large hall with a vaulted roof overlooked by a corridor running along its entire length Staircases at either side lead to the rooms on the upper floor, and to the flat roof which is crowned by small cupolas Towards the centre of the palace is the Aina Mahal. the residence of the governor's chief wife, which stands in the middle of what was once Man Singh's Persian garden

"Of the other buildings, the most imposing is the *Takht Padshahi*, or Governor's residence, which rises to the height of four stories and is crowned with a graceful cupola On the second floor are a handsome hall and gallery supported by solid pillars with carved cornices, on the third floor a small cupola leads to a covered balcony overlooking the terraced roof of the ladies apartments, while the topmost cupola gives a magnificent view of the surrounding country and commands the whole palace area

"*Other buildings*—Scattered over the plateau are the remains of various buildings, two only of which can be attributed to the time of Sher Shah, viz., the Jama Masjid or Alamgiri Masjid, a mosque with three domes, and the large mausoleum of Habsh Khan, generally known as the *rauza* of Nawas Khan the latter building, which in style resembles the monument of Hasan Khan at Sasaram, is possibly the tomb mentioned by Buchanan as that of the *daroga* or superintendent of works of Sher Shah In front of this stands a mosque built in 1580 by an eunuch bearing the same name, and close by there are a number of tombs also dating from Mughal times. The most interesting of these is the tomb of Shafi Sultan (1578), who died suddenly, when he was expecting to be promoted to the rank of Khan. It has some fine stucco ornamentation, and like several of the other tombs, is covered by a dome supported on pillars. Similar

structures are frequently met with in Rajputana, where they are called Chattris; and evidently this style of building, which is never found in Bengal proper, was introduced by the garrison of the fort, who were largely recruited from Rajputana. A similar importation from the north-west is the octagonal open pillared hall covered by hemispherical dome, which stands in front of some of the Hindu temples found on the plateau. The most picturesquely situated of all these temples is the Rohtasan, or temple of Rohitaswa. It stands at the edge of the precipice on a small peak at the north-eastern corner of the plateau and is approached by a long flight of eighty-four steps; little of this temple now remains and the tower and *mandapa* which once formed part of it have long since disappeared The image of Rohitaswa is said to have been worshipped here until it was destroyed by the inconoclastic zeal of Aurangzeb, who erected a small brick mosque just behind it· the latter was a wretched building which has recently been demolished Close by the temple of Rohitaswa stands the shrine sacred to his father Haris Chandra, a graceful building consisting of a small pillared hall covered with five domes, the image formerly worshipped here was also removed by Aurangzeb.

"At a little distance from the palace, at the head of a great ravine on the western side of the plateau, is a cave overlooking a sheer precipice about a thousand feet high A Muhammadan saint is said to be buried here, and local legend relates that he was thrice thrown down the precipice bound hand and foot, but each time reappeared unhurt At the foot of the plateau there is a large tomb with a long Persian inscription over the gate, which states that when the hill fortress was erected (1638) Ikhlas Khan was its *kiladar* with the rank of a commander of three thousand, and *faujdar* of Makrai and the *parganas* of Siris and Benares, and that his *jagir* consisted of the *parganas* of Jiwand, Sakror, Tilothu, Akbarpur, Belaunja and Japla The *parganas* mentioned lie in the modern districts of Shahabad, Gaya, Palamau and Benares (*see* also Eastern India, Vol I, 1838, Reports, A S. B C, for 1901-02 and 1903-04, and Report, A S-I, for 1902-03)"*

Rohtas has since long been a railway station of the Dehri-Rohtas Light Railway The Dehri Rohtas Light Railway runs goods and passengers from Dehri to Pipardih and back Rohtas has become a busy place due to the Murli hill quarries which is nearby the Rohtas railway station Rohtas has a lower and an upper primary school, one post office and a club for the labourers of the Murli quarry. Besides, there is a hospital for the labourers

The fort of the Rohtas is under the protection of Government. A path leading to the summit of the hill, where is the entrance gate of the fort has been constructed by the District Board, Shahabad, covering a distance of nearly a mile and counting about 2,000 steps

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), pages 174—181

Dr. D. R. Patil has given details of the history, results of modern exploration including the inscriptions in his "The Antiquarian Remains in Bihar"*. His account of the inscriptions is quoted below:—

"(i) *Rock inscription of Sasankadeva*—The exact location of this inscription on the hill is not given by Fleet, who noticed it earliest in his well-known work on "Gupta Inscriptions", Kuraishi makes no reference to it. The inscription is in reverse on the rock and the whole, perhaps, according to Fleet, represents a mould or matrix for casting copper seals in relief, as the legend, as seen on the rock, is counter-sunk and not in relief The seal-matrix is circular in shape, 4¼" in diameter, and has, in its upper smaller half a damaged figure of a recumbent bull facing to right In the lower bigger half is the inscription, in Sanskrit, in two lines, which reads: *Sri-maha samanta Sasanka-devasya* (i e, of the illustrious Maha-samanta Sasanka deva) Fleet's suggestion that the Sasanka of this inscription is the same famous King Sasanka of Bengal who killed Rajyavardhana, the elder brother of King Harsha of Kanauj, is generally accepted He assigned the inscription palaeographically to 7th century A D. (cf. Fleet, CII, III, pp 283-84 and Bhandarkar's List no 1741)

"(ii) *Inscription of Pratapadhavala*—This was said to have been on a rock near Phulwari *ghat;* but in 1929 Kuraishi stated that it was not traceable It was first noticed by Kielhorn in about 1898. It refers to the chief or *nayaka* Sri *Pratapadhavala* of Japila (or Japla cf p 182 above) who, it states constructed a road up to the top of the hill in V S 1225 (A.D. 1168) (cf. Kielhorn, EI, V. Appendix, p 22, no. 152; Ind. Ant., XIX, p 179 and Bhandarkar's List no 338 and Kuraishi, List, p 172)

"(iii) *Inscription of King Pratapa*—This is engraved on the rock of the hill near Lal Darwaja or Red gate of the fort (cf. p 493 above) for details

"(iv) *Phulwari Ghat Inscriptions.*—This is on a rock near the Phulwari ghat, a few hundred yards to south of the Rohtasan temple (cf p 498 above). It is in five lines and is dated V S. 1934 (i e, A D 1338) It was first noticed by R L Mitra, in 1876 and is not found included in Bhandarkar's List Mitra says that the inscription is on the jamb of 'a gate in the citadel' and he adds that to the right of the inscription is carved, on the rock, a figure of Hanuman armed with a club with another figure of a lion nearby According to Mitra it records the birth of two persons, named Muladaha Sinha and Muladala Bhima but K N Dikshit, as quoted, by Kuraishi, was doubtful about this reading The record does not seem to have been studied carefully afterwards (cf R. L Mitra, Proc ASB, 1876, p 109, Kuraishi, List, p 153)

* *The Antiquarian Remains in Bihar* by Dr. D R Patil (Patna), 1963, pages 503—505

"(v) *Inscription on north gate of the fort (i.e., Ghazi Gate ?)*.—R. L. Mitra mentions existence of an inscription on a jamb of the north gate which he says mentions the house or room of one Galunatha. He gives, however, no further details regarding its location, date and contents, nor is the inscription found referred to afterwards by any other authority (cf. Proc. ASB, 1876, p. 110).

"(vi) *The Kathautiya Gate inscriptions*: (a) *of Raja Man Singh*.—Over the arched entrance of the gate are two inscriptions, one in Sanskrit and the other in Persian. The Sanskrit record refers to the completion of the construction of the gate (or rather repairs to it) in 1607 A.D., while the Persian record mentions Raja Man Singh as the builder of the gate (cf. Kuraishi, p. 153 and *see* also p. above).

"(b) *of Tomar Chief Viramitra Sena*.—(cf. p. 490 above for details. The inscription is now in Indian Museum, Calcutta).

Buchanan, Shahabad, pp. 107 ff; U. N. Ghosh, Rohtasgarh (1908); Hunter, Statistical Account, XII, pp. 209 ff; Bengal List, pp. 362-3; Block. An. Rep., ASI, 1902, p. 22; An. Rep., ASI, 1902-3, pp. 57-58; JASB, 1839, pp. 695 ff; BODG, Shahabad, pp. 174 ff; Kuraishi, List, pp. 146—183."

SANJHAULI.—A village under Nokha police-station of Sasaram subdivision and is situated on the Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway and on Arrah-Sasaram road. It is a very large marketing centre. It deals mainly in paddy, rice, wheat, *masoor*, *khesari*, linseed and mustard oil obtained locally and exported to Chapra, Patna and Jharia and also consumed locally.

SARANJA.—Under Rajpur police-station of Buxar subdivision is a village situated in the interior at a distance of 10 KM from Chausa Railway Station on the main line of the Eastern Railway and 10 KM from the nearest Buxar—Chausa bus route. It deals in cereals and pulses and oils and oil-seeds obtained locally and exported within the district.

SARKI.—The village is situated on the Kaimur hills at a distance of about 20 miles south of Adhaura, the block headquarters and 56 miles from Bhabua, the subdivisional headquarters. It has an area of 388.27½ acres with 66 households and a population of approximately 383 persons.

It is the headquarters of a *gram panchayat*. There is a residential basic school having 29 students. The village has no road. A co-operative godown and a community hall in the village are under construction. There are a foot and mouth diseases trough, a *chuan* and a well also in the village. This is an Adivasi village.

SARODAG.—The village is situated on the Kaimur hills at a distance of 14 miles from Adhaura, the block headquarters and 50 miles from Bhabua, the subdivisional headquarters. It has an area of 3,409 95 acres, 69 households and a population of approximately 279 persons.

The village is connected with Adhaura by a *katcha* hilly road constructed by the Forest Department The village has an Ayurvedic dispensary maintained by the Welfare Department It is the headquarters of a *gram panchayat* A *Tasar* seed supply sub-centre is located here. A primary school, a co-operative godown, an irrigational bundh and seven rural houses for the Adivasis in the village are under construction There are one *chuan* and one foot and mouth diseases trough in the village This is an Adivasi village

SASARAM (CHHOTI SASARAM).—This is a large village in mofussil police-station and Udwantnagar Block of the Sadar subdivision. It is located near Arrah-Buxar road and is about 10 miles west of Arrah The nearest railway station is Bihea about four miles west of the village. The total population is 2,408 (males 1,191; females 1,217). The village is the headquarters of a Panchayat.

There are one high school, one middle school, one upper primary school and one lower primary school in the village There are about 500 boys in the high school The incidence of literacy seems fairly high All these schools have co-education

Although the main occupation of the villagers is cultivation and the village is so close to Arrah, Package Programme does not appear to have caught the imagination of the people as the number of participants in the Package Programme is on the decline. There are two tube-wells in the village and one of them is lying out of order since three months when the village was visited in September, 1964 The nearest post office is Gajrajganj about one mile and both Gajrajganj and Sasaram have got a number of grocers and vegetable shops. This village has a sizeable vegetable belt

This village is only four miles from Bihea Block headquarters but has been connected with Udwantnagar which is 18 miles and only accessible by *pucca* road *via* Arrah

SASARAM SUBDIVISION—The *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1906) mentions. "South-eastern subdivision of the district lying between 24°31′ and 25°22′N. and 83°0′ and 84°27′E, and extending over 1,481 square miles Its population was 538,903 in 1901 against 533,356 in 1891, the density of population being 362 persons to the square mile The Kaimur hills in the south afford little space for cultivation, and this part of the subdivision suffered severely in the famine of 1896-97 Altogether 480 square miles are reported to be under cultivation, of which 224 square miles are irrigated by the Son canals. The subdivision contains one town

Sasaram, its headquarters, and 1,906 villages, one of which, Dehri. is important as the site of the headquarters of the Son canal system. *There are old forts* at Shergarh and Rohtasgarh, and Sasaram itself contains antiquities of great interest*".

The last *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) mentioned that the total population of this subdivision was 5,38,903 in 1921 against 5,44,374 in 1911. It also mentioned that 854 square miles were under cultivation, of which 434 square miles were irrigated†

Sasaram subdivision has since expanded enormously.

The following statement will show the incidence of the growing population in Sasaram subdivision from 1901 to 1961:—

Year	Persons	Males	Females.
1901	5,39,635	2,60,210	2,79,425
1911	5,44,374	2,63,078	2,81,296
1921	5,38,903	2,65,216	2,78,687
1931	5,89,565	2,94,355	2,95,210
1941	6,90,220	3,50,734	3,39,486
1951‡	8,26,278	4,22,547	4,03,731
1961**	10,18,636	5,19,920	4,98,716

The Subdivisional Officer is the head of the administration of the subdivision. He is directly under the administrative control of the District Magistrate. There are ten police-stations, namely, Sasaram, Bikramganj, Rohtas, Chenari, Dehri, Nasriganj, Dinara, Dawath, Kargahar and Nokha in this subdivision.

This subdivision has 13 Community Development Blocks, namely, Bikramganj, Karakat, Dinara, Dawath, Kargahar, Nokha, Sasaram, Sheosagar, Rohtas, Nawhatta, Chenari, Dehri and Nasriganj The Block is an unit for both the revenue administration as for the development work. Each Block has been placed under a gazetted officer who is called the Block Development Officer He is normally of the rank of a Deputy Collector or a Sub-Deputy Collector The Block Development Officer has to do all the revenue and development work of a Block.

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1906), page 154

† *Ibid* (1924), page 181.

‡ *District Census Hand-Book of Shahabad*, page 4.

** *Census of India*, 1961, *Volume IV, Bihar, Part II-A*, page 80.

Sasaram town has a municipality. There are notified area committees at Nasriganj and Dehri-on-Sone. The details of the municipality and the notified area committees will be found on "Local Self-Government" chapter.

As regards trade, this subdivision exports cement, sugar, paper, timber, limestone, etc., to Lucknow, Calcutta, Bombay, Patna, Kanpur, etc. It imports medicine, machine, soap, shoes, etc., from Calcutta, Bombay, Kanpur and Varanasi.

So far as the agricultural products are concerned this subdivision is mainly a paddy and sugarcane growing area. The staple food are rice, *dal* and vegetables, *murhi* (fried rice), *gur*, *chura*, curd and *ghughni* (boiled gram) constitute their favourite tiffin Use of *biri*, *khaini* (tobacco) and *pan* are very common.

The incidence of education and literacy is fairly high The people of this subdivision pay much attention to education. There are 60 high schools including higher secondary schools and three colleges in this subdivision and many lower and upper primary schools.

This subdivision has got a number of important villages, namely, Surajpura, Koath, Babhnaul, Karakat, Dawath, Nawhatta, etc. They have been separately covered.

The southern part of the subdivision is becoming an important industrial zone. The Sahu Jain Industry manufactures cement, sugar, paper and board, chemicals, vanaspati, etc. The details have been given separately.

There are four towns in this subdivision, namely, Sasaram, Nasriganj, Bikramganj and Dehri, discussed elsewhere.

At Bhaluni in this subdivision a fair is held in October and April in honour of the goddess Devi. It attracts about ten thousand persons, and spices, piece goods, and articles of local manufacture are the principal articles sold Besides this *melas* are also held on the occasion of Durga Puja, Ram Navami, Shivratri, Lakshmi Puja and Muharram in the big villages of the subdivision.

This subdivision offers great facilities for *shikar* Both wild games and birds used to be available in plenty in the hills and forests, river belts and water pools. Crocodiles used to be abundant. There has been a decline in the availability of the birds and some particular species of deer have disappeared At present owing to the high prices of bullets and cartridges there has been an increase in the number of wild animals. One misses the wild ducks that used to fill the bed of the Sone river at Nasriganj and other places. The observations in the section of the forest may be looked into.

The subdivision is also remarkable for some temples, passes and mineral deposits. With the continuing development of the communication and irrigation facilities due to the Sone Barrage project nearing completion, the subdivision is found to play an increasing important role in the economy of the district and of the State

SASARAM TOWN —Regarding Sasaram town the last *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* mentions as follows —

"Headquarters town of the subdivision of the same name, situated on the Grand Trunk Road at the 350th mile from Calcutta, in 24°57′N and 84°1′E There is here a station on the Grand Chord line of the East Indian Railway, and the terminus of the Arrah Sasaram railway. The population (1921) is 22,308, which shows a slight decline from the population of 1911 (23,097). Of the existing population 12,884 are Hindus and 8,886 are Muhammadans, 535 Sikhs account for practically the whole of the balance The full name of Sasaram (Sahasram) is said to be Shasra Arjanpura, because the thousand armed Haihaya Chief Arjuna died here His thousand arms are said to have been cut off by Parasu Rama, when he fled with all his followers to this place Here he died, and his followers gave his name to the town which they had built The town lies about sixty miles from Arrah and commands a fine view of the north escarpment of the Kaimur hills, two miles distant to the south It is about a mile in diameter and consists of a mass of old brick houses closely packed along narrow lanes

'During the Mutiny Sasaram was a centre of disturbance. In August 1858 it was attacked and plundered by a body of rebels from Arrah, and the part played by the people in driving this force away was recognized by Government in officially giving the town the title of Sasaram Nasir-ul hukkam, i e, Sasaram the loyal town, while Shah Kabir-ud-din, the Sajjada nashin, who was their recognized leader and who loyally supported Government through the crisis, was rewarded with a *khilat* of Rs 10 000 and a *sanad* under the seal and signature of the Governor General * Amar Singh and his followers infested the neighbourhood, and a large British force had to be stationed in the town in order to meet marauding parties, to secure the tranquility of the south of the district and to keep open communications along the Grand Trunk Road by which the troops were marching to the north It was for some time the headquarters of an independent command composed of two or three hundred European soldiers with seventy artillerymen and four 9-pounder guns, besides a levy, two hundred and fifty strong, which had been raised for the occupation of Rohtasgarh. The inhabitants still point to a rising knoll to the north of the town where those rebel leaders who were

* See "*Inside Bihar*" by P. C Roy Chaudhury (Bookland, 1962), for further details.

captured were executed, and the cemetery close by at Koraich contains a number of graves of European soldiers who died here during the Mutiny.

Monuments.

"The most ancient monument at Sasaram is an Asoka inscription, inside a small cave near the top of Chandan Pir's hill to the east of the town. The inscription, which is referred either to the year 232 or 231 B.C., the last year of the aged Emperor's life, probably contains a date referring to the death of Buddha; but no convincing interpretation* of it has yet been found other versions of the same edict exist at Rupnath in Central India, at Bairat near Jaipur, and at Siddapur in the Mysore State The hill where the inscription is found was evidently an old Buddhist site, which appears to have been appropriated later on by the Muhammadans. The latter call the cave the *chiragdan* or lamp of the saint, Chandan Pir, whose *dargah* is on the summit of the hill, they know nothing, however, of his life and history, although they insist upon his being called *Shahid*, or martyr, and worship at his tomb General Cunningham, however, quotes a legend which seems to have been suggested by that of Sahasra Arjun. According to this story a Muhammadan saint living at Benares had his head cut off by a Hindu named Chandan, and fled away without his head till he reached Sasaram Here he asked a woman for some betel to eat, but she replied. "What is the use of giving you betel when your head is gone?" On this, the holy man at once dropped down dead. A small building close to the *dargah* was erected by a tobacco-seller in 1804, and at the foot of the hill is a ruined mosque of the time of Jahangir (1613 A.D.). On the Tarachandi rock, one mile to the south, is an inscription of Pratapadhavala engraved on the rock close by the figure of Chandi Devi

Tomb of Sher Shah.

"The magnificent mausoleum of Sher Shah inside the town and the smaller one of his father, Hasan Khan Sur, east of it, are among the most important ancient monuments in the province The former, which is one of the noblest specimens of Pathan architecture in India, is an imposing structure of stone, standing in the middle of a fine tank about a thousand feet square and rising from a large stone terrace. This terrace, which is thirty feet high and three hundred feet square, rests on a large stone platform with a flight of steps leading to the water's edge, and, for some unknown reason, was not built squarely upon it, but placed obliquely to its sides The following description† of the tomb gives an account of the building

* See, however, *Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum, Vol I*, page 180, Asoka, page 138, by Vincent A. Smith, and *Early History of India*, page 154, by the same author.

† *Travels in India during* 1780—83, by William Hodges, R. A., London, 1793.

as it existed between 1780—83. 'The plan of this mausoleum is a square base, rising from the centre of the lake, having at each angle pavilions crowned with domes and finished with a cullus; from this base was a bridge that, from the ruins now remaining, must have consisted of six pointed arches which communicated to the side of the lake, and on two sides are a double flight of steps to the water, on the base is raised an octagon building, having three pointed arches in each face, and on each angle are pavilions finished like the former. Somewhat behind this runs an octagon ninety-two feet in diameter, and from the extremes spring the dome, which is finished on the top by a small pavilion, like those already described'. When Buchanan saw the tomb, the only means of access to it was a raft made of a bamboo framework supported by earthen pots; and the dome was crowned by a small cupola resting on four pillars When the building was restored by Government in 1882, this cupola was pulled down and replaced by a pinnacle similar to that on Hasan Khan Sur's Tomb, and a causeway, three hundred and fifty feet long, was built to connect the tomb with the northern side of the tank

"Mounting from the causeway to the terrace, the building is entered through a wide verandah, running all round the building with three arches on each side The interior of the tomb consists of a large octagonal hall surrounded by an arcade of Gothic arches, from which springs a second octagonal storey, and above this rises the dome with a span of seventy-two feet The grave of Sher Shah lies in the centre with the right side turned towards Mecca, and is distinguished from the other graves near it by a small column placed at its head; the latter are ranged in two rows at its foot, and are said to belong to the Emperor's favourite officers The hall is lighted by a series of windows above the verandah filled with stone tracery, and the Mecca niche is richly ornamented with passages from the Koran carved in stone. Two broad terraces at each corner of which are cupolas supported on stone columns, lead round the building, the first being over the verandah and the second at the base of the dome. Traces of coloured enamelled tiles still exist on the domes of the different kiosques and the walls of the tomb. Its height from the floor to the apex of the dome is one hundred and one feet and its total height above the water is over one hundred and fifty feet, the octagon forming the tomb has an interior diameter of seventy five feet and an exterior diameter of one hundred and four feet The tomb is remarkable for the great span of its dome, which is thirteen feet wider than the dome of the Taj Mahal, and for grandeur and dignity it is quite unequalled in northern India. The architecture is predominantly saracenic in character; but the influence of Hindu architecture is distinctly to be seen in the design.

Tomb of Hasan Khan Sur.

"In the centre of the town is the mausoleum of Hasan Khan Sur, the father of the Emperor (1538 A.D.). It stands in a large courtyard, enclosed by a high wall of cut stone with towers at the four corners and a gateway to the east. The tomb consists of an octagonal hall surmounted by a large dome and is surrounded by an arcade with three Gothic arches on each side This arcade is crowned on each side by three small domes and is richly ornamented with plaster engraved with sentences from the Koran, above it is a terrace running round the basement of the dome with pillared kiosque at each angle. The tomb was once adorned with glazed pottery and profuse stucco ornamentation, but few traces of these are left.

Tomb of Salim Shah.

"In the middle of a large tank, about half a mile to the north-west of Sher Shah's tomb, is situated the tomb of his son, the Emperor Salim Shah, where his body was brought from Gwalior (1553 A D) The building was never completed, and all that can be seen is an octagonal-shaped building, about ten or fifteen feet high, with some of the arches turned In the centre of the building is the grave of Salim Shah· on its left is a second grave, and at its foot five others of smaller size, the whole being surrounded by a wall about seven feet high, rudely built of rough stones and clay. Probably the body of Salim Shah was deposited here in state to wait for the completion of the tomb, but owing to the downfall of his family the building was never finished. Enough remains, however, to show that it was intended to construct a large octagonal hall, one hundred and forty feet in diameter, covered with a dome and surrounded by an arcade, while at each corner was an octagonal projection on which kiosques or minarets would have been erected Perhaps the most striking part of the remains is a stone bridge of trabeate construction, connecting the island with the southern side of the tank, it consists of eleven spans crossed by large stone slabs laid from abutment to abutment and has ten small balconies projecting from each side, which would have been crowned with cupolas, had the design been carried out.

Tomb of Alawal Khan.

"Outside the town to the south is the ruined tomb of Alawal Khan who, according to local tradition, was the officer in charge of the building of Sher Shah's mausoleum and took advantage of his position to appropriate the finest stone for his own tomb. The eastern and western walls, which are surmounted by cupolas are in fair preservation, and the principal door has some fine carving round it.

Other buildings.

"The only other buildings in Sasaram worthy of mention are the building known as the *Kila,* the Idgah and the Turkish bath. The former is popularly supposed to be the old house of Hasan Khan Sur, and though in a ruinous state is a fine building. The Idgah near Sher Shah's tomb was built by Mujahid Khan in the time of Shah Jahan (1633–1636 A.D.). The Turkish bath, which, like the tombs of Sher Shah and Hasan Khan Sur, is maintained by Government, is ascribed by local tradition to the time of Sher Shah. Mr. Twining, who was Collector of Shahabad at the beginning of the 19th century, alludes to the bath as the old imperial bath and states that it is decorated with mosaic, similar to that of Delhi and Agra, composed of cornelians from the Son, no traces of this mosaic are left The bath was constantly used by travellers along the Grand Trunk Road before the construction of the railway; and an old visitors' book contains record of their appreciation of it*.

The Khankah.

"Sasaram contains an important religious endowment in the *khankah*†, which was founded early in the 18th century by a devout Mohammadan, named Sheikh Kabir Darwesh, the ancestor of the present Sajjada-nashin, or superior of the institution. It was endowed in the year 1717 A.D. by the Emperor Farrukhsiyar with eighteen villages, given rent-free and producing the computed income of a lakh of *dams*, or about Rs. 940 a year. 'on account of the expenses of the *khankah'* without further specification. In the year 1762 A D, the Emperor Shah Alam added forty-one villages, producing three thousand rupees a year, also assigned free of revenue 'to the holy saint Sheikh Zia-ud-din for the expenses of travellers and comers' There were also some gifts of smaller value made to the superior of the *khankah* for the time being by authorities inferior to the Emperor, but claiming the right to exempt land from the public revenue The validity of the proceedings purporting to make the assigned villages revenue-free was examined by the resumption authorities in 1836, with the result that the order of Farrukhsiyar was declared to be good, while that of Shah Alam was found to be of no force, inasmuch as possession of the land assigned by it was not obtained until after the establishment of the Company's administration, when Shah Alam's right to make such gifts had passed away No revenue was, however, assessed, on the ground that the lands were attached to a useful institution, which was declared by Government to be of a charitable character. The grants of the subordinate rulers were likewise approved, except in

* See Reports, *A. S. I.*, Vol. XI; *List of ancient monuments in Bengal*, 1896; and *Report, A. S. B. C.*, for 1901-02.

† *Report of the Muhammadan Educational Endowments Committee*, 1888.

two instances in which the exemption from revenue being declared invalid, the land tax was assessed at half the usual rate.

"As to the nature of the institution for the support of which this provision was primarily made, it has been ruled by the Calcutta High Court that the *khankah* is a religious foundation, being a place in which persons exclusively devoted to a spiritual life reside and carry on their pious exercises. It includes a mosque, where customary ceremonies are performed at certain festivals, and the tombs of devout persons at which prescribed observances are followed, and arrangements are made for teaching religious books and for distributing alms to the poor.

"Local agents for the control of the endowment under Regulation XIX of 1810 are mentioned at an early period, but it appears that if any were appointed in addition to the Collector, who held the position *ex-officio*, they never enjoyed real power, as in 1842 we find the Sajjada-nashin altogether denying their authority, on the ground that the institution was of a private character. In that year Government insisted on the existence of the right to supervise, but directed that its exercise should be confined to the land granted by Shah Alam, about half the whole, the rest being left to the Sajjada-nashin, without control or interference, as his personal remuneration for the duties performed by him. This arrangement did not work well, owing to friction between the local agents and the Superior, and in 1849 Government definitely withdrew from all connection with the endowment, reserving only the right to intervene in the event of any future abuse or misappropriation. Attention was again drawn to the matter in 1865, when there was a dispute as to the succession, and the Board of Revenue, to whom the Collector referred the question whether the secular portion of the endowment should not be separated from the religious under Act XX of 1863, decided that the endowment was exclusively secular, and re-appointed local agents to exercise supervision under Regulation XIX of 1840 These local agents assumed a hostile attitude towards the Superior, Shah Mohi-ud-din Ahmed, who openly challenged their assumption of authority as illegal, and also offered an irritating opposition in detail to every attempt at interference. The Board in 1868 passed rules for his guidance, regulating how much he should spend on each branch of the endowment, such as education, alms and religious ceremonies, but in 1870 they greatly modified these rules, on the ground that in their original form they deprived him of all initiative. On the rules being changed, the members of the Committee resigned, but not before they had sent in a report accusing the Superior of mismanagement. New agents were appointed, who in 1875, after a protracted conflict with the Superior and after an investigation at which he declined to be present, reported that he was guilty of misfeasance, in

neglecting the rules laid down by the Board. On this finding, Government dismissed Shah Mohi-ud-din from his office.

"From 1875 to 1884 the endowment was practically managed by Government through the Collector as local agent. Under this system very satisfactory results were obtained A cadastral survey was made of the estate, a record-of-rights was prepared for the protection of the raiyats, the system of management by middlemen was abolished, and the income was thus greatly increased without raising the cultivators' rents. A fine stone building was erected for the Madrasa which was raised to the first position in its class and affiliated to the Calcutta Madrasa, a new dispensary was also erected, and charitable works generally were prosecuted with vigour The religious observances were not neglected, Shah Mohi-ud-din being restored to the position of Superior expressly to direct them, and receiving a handsome allowance for so doing.

"For some years Shah Mohi-ud-din acquiesced under protest in this arrangement, but just before the expiry of the period of limitation he brought a suit for the restoration to him of the property of the endowment, on the ground that he was not to blame in any way and that the institution being of a religious and family character, Government had no jurisdiction to eject him from his position. The Subordinate Judge found that not only had there been no mismanagement, but also that the dismissal was invalid, as the executive Government was not authorized to remove a manager of an endowment for misconduct, and that in the absence of any express enactment the power of dismissal vests in the Civil Courts. Shah Mohi-ud din was, therefore, restored and the Court, making the division between secular and religious objects which the Board of Revenue is empowered to effect under Act XX of 1863, declared that the villages granted by Shah Alam, about half the entire property, should be held for temporal purposes, subject to the superintendence of the local agents, and that the profit of the rest of the lands should be devoted, free from all external control, to religious acts and uses, including the maintenance of the Superior and of his family. The distinction thus drawn was founded partly on the words of Shah Alam's grant, and partly on the fact that Government in freeing these lands from revenue had declared them to be attached to a secular charity, and again in 1842 had placed them under a special supervision, to which the Superior of the day yielded for a time This decree was afterwards confirmed on appeal by the High Court.

"Much of the property of the endowment has been lost, as one of the Superiors of the *khankah* dying without male issue alienated most of the land of the endowment to his descendants in the female line. The property was recovered for the foundation after prolonged litigation, which ended only when an appeal was made to

the Privy Council. Five of the eighteen villages granted by Farrukhsiyar and eight of the forty-one villages given by Shah Alam remain in the possession of descendants of former Superiors and are still held by them as their private property, as the legal advisers of Government, to whom a reference was made, were not in favour of an attempt being made to recover them so long after the original malversation The total income of the endowment is now about thirty-two thousand rupees, of which about five thousand annually are available for educational purposes*".

Sasaram is a different town now (1964) It has expanded enormously and is now a large town Now the East Indian Railway is known as the Eastern Railway Near the Sher Shah's tomb, there is a park round the tank It was put up in 1937 through the efforts of the Second Officer and the Subdivisional Officer Messrs P C Roy Chaudhury and M. Azfar The tank surrounding the tomb is in use and it serves the purpose of drinking water to thousands of people The park sponsored in 1937 has not been kept up properly.

The total population of the town according to the census of 1951 was 29,265, i e, 14,782 males and 14,483 females According to the census of 1961, the total population is 37,782, i e, 19,540 males and 18,242 females†

This town is at the junction of several roads such as Sasaram-Arrah, Sasaram-Dehri-on-Sone, Sasaram-Bhabua, etc. These roads connect Sasaram to Arrah, Patna, Varanasi, Gaya, Bhabua, etc. Buses and trucks ply in these distant places with passengers and commodities The main roads in the town are metalled The Sasaram Municipality maintains about seven miles of *pucca* road and six miles of *katcha* road within the town The vehicles within the town are buses, rickshaws, cycles *tamtams*, taxis and bullock-carts The town is now very congested with poor sanitation Civic amenities are poor

So far as the medical and public health is concerned, the town has a subdivisional hospital. Besides there are about ten allopathic, 15 homoeopathic and ten *ayurvedic* private practitioners in the town There is no sewerage system within the town

There are two cinema houses The students are the chief patrons of the cinema houses This may be due to the fact that there are hardly any other sources of recreation

The town is important from the administrative point of view. Besides being the subdivisional headquarters of the subdivision it has a large number of offices of both the Central and State Government. Some of these Central Government offices are Post and

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad*, 1924, pages 181—189

† *Census of India* 1961, *Vol. IV, Bihar, Part II-A General Population Tables*, page 81.

Telegraph Office, the Railway, the branch office of the State Bank of India and the Life Insurance Corporation of India. Some of the State offices are those of Subdivisional Officer, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Subdivisional Officer, Education, Block Development Office, Divisional Forect Office, etc. Besides these there is also the office of Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway

The main industries of the town are basket-making, blanket-making and wooden furniture making.

The town has one Dak Bungalow, one Inspection Bungalow, one *Dharamshala* and one *Musafir Khana*. There are also hotels of poor standard for accommodation and refreshment. There are no youth hostels or hotels Tourism could be developed with this town as a centre.

The town has one college, two higher secondary schools, two basic training schools, five middle schools and ten lower and upper primary schools.

The town has four libraries On the average about 30 persons daily visit each of the libraries. The oldest library is the Sher Shah Park Library There are about 4,000 books in this library The town has one town club where indoor games are played and two children parks

The town is electrified and about 3,472 houses have been electrified There is one water tower in the town by which water is supplied in the houses and shops

The town has one subdivisional hospital maintained by the State Government with three doctors including one lady doctor and the other staff There is the provision of 46 beds (26 for males and 20 for females) There is also T B clinic and Maternity and Child Welfare centres attached to the hospital The details will be found on 'Medical and Public Health' chapter

The town has three post offices. There is also a telephone exchange with 158 connections

The town has one Class I Veterinary dispensary three slaughter houses and four liquor shops. It was observed that about 200 persons visit the liquor shops daily. In order to organise the sale of pure milk and improve the quantity of milk, one *goshala* has been started which is privately managed.

The town has about 30 grain-*golas*. About 40 to 50 labourers work in the *gola* of the wholesale dealers The town has about 40 rice, oil and flour mills.

The important *mohallas* in the town are Gowrachni, Karansarai, Gandhiki, Neeur, Alamganj, Moburakganj, Lakariganj, Chowkhandi and Adam Khan-ki-Imli

There is a temple of Sikhs in the town which is called *Gurujee Ka Bagh.* It is said that Guru Teg Bahadur, father of Guru Govind Singh visited Sasaram and stayed at the place now known as *Gurujee Ka Bagh.* There was one Phagumal who went to see Guru Teg Bahadur and requested him to visit his house which the Gurujee kindly accepted When he reached the door of Phagumal which was so small as not to allow a man to enter straight but Gurujee being on horseback with a sikh flag in his hand entered the house, which is now known as the *Phagu Chacha Ki Sangat* The foundation of *Bari Sangat* or *Purani Sangat* was laid by the same Guru Teg Bahadurjee*. The Sikhs of the town have been treated at length separately.

SAWATH.—A village in Durgawati police-station and close to the Grand Trunk road. The population during 1951 census was 1,300, i e, 682 males and 618 females with 193 occupied houses. The total number of literate persons was 76, i e, 74 males and two females. Its thana number is 108 and area is 1,161 acres According to 1951 census the number of cultivators of land wholly or mainly owned and their dependants was 820 and the number of cultivating labourers and their dependants was 332 Besides this, 57 were employed in commerce.

This village has a lower and upper primary school.

SHAHPURPATTI—Headquarters of Shahpur police-station in Sadar subdivision is a village on Arrah-Buxar road The nearest railway station for the village is Banahi on the main line of the Eastern Railway situated at a distance of 5 K M It trades mainly in rice and gram obtained locally and consumed locally *Hats* are held here on Tuesdays and Saturdays There is a R. C Church, a hospital and a convent There are schools and a number of shops.

SHER GARH—Sher Garh is a natural hill fort about twenty-five miles away from Sasaram on the Grand Trunk Road part of which road could only be jeeped or trekked It is sited amidst gorgeous scenery and the top of the rock has a natural rampart which has been well fortified by a number of bastions and bulwarks. The ascent is steep and through jungles with a remarkable and typical fauna and flora. The nearest habitation is a small village, i e., Simraul about one mile away There are some beautiful gorges

* For further details on the Ashokan Edicts, rock cut caves and inscriptions, ancient sites, forts, mosques, Muslim tombs, tanks, wells, Turkish bath, Khanqah, Sikh temples, etc, please see *The Antiquarian Remains In Bihar* by Dr. D. R. Patil (Patna) 1963, pages 511—526

through which the winding path leads. The top of hill commands a view of the distant range of hills and the valley of Durgawati. The fort, a wonderful piece of nature's handiwork, human skill and architecture, is now in ruins It is a beauty spot but seldom visited. The main gate of the fort opens out into two large covered *dalans* supported by pillars both to the east and west and either of them could accommodate about 1,000 persons. The fort area is about six square miles.

The origin of this fort is a mystery. A casual remark of Francis Buchanan probably inspired by the name of Sher Garh has led to his doubtful theory that Sher Shah had built this fort. This theory appears to have persisted. Buchanan had found Sher Garh in ruins. He has described the fort and its famous underground halls at some details, but he has not made any mention of any inscriptions that he saw in the fort. Sher Shah was a pious and orthodox Muslim and his self-built tomb and other monuments at Sasaram and elsewhere have all got engraved inscriptions His occupation of the ancient fort at Rohtas is amply borne by the mosques and *Idgah* there. It is intriguing that Sher Shah would build this fort Sher Garh and would not leave any inscriptions The type of architecture is also absolutely dissimilar from Sher Shah's tomb built by him

At Sher Garh the drawings and scrolls are all on the conglomerate and this is certainly not typical about Sher Shah's legacy The underground dancing hall at Sher Garh is also hardly in consonance with that sturdy and austere character which marks Sher Shah out from Humayon his rival Sher Shah had a very brief span as a ruler. It might be that after capturing Rohtas Garh he turned his attention to the existing fort of Sher Garh as the second line of defence Sher Garh is an ideal spot for this purpose in the circumstances of that period It is at a remote corner and far from human habitation The underground halls could be stored with foodstuff to last for months There is an excellent underground well with a dome over it and the well has got a perennial water-supply being connected with some underground spring From the top of Sher Garh, the approach of enemies could be visualised from a distance of about ten miles on every direction and the enemy could easily be routed while on its way through the zig zag ascent It is quite possible that this fort existed from before and was the stronghold of the Rajput chieftains, a number of whom held Shahabad when Sher Shah came to power and Sher Shah had occupied it It came to be known as Sher Garh because of Sher Shah's personality

The top of the hill is now a mass of ruins The ramparts and the bastions are decaying The first gate will not stand its own for a long time and the beautiful broad courtyards are full of jungles and snakes The buildings contain several large courtyards surrounded by four open galleries which are now falling into ruins

and open into the remnants of some closed rooms behind. The carvings on the pillars supporting the galleries have very delicate and artistic designs combining grace and imagination and are more artistic than the similar carvings at Rohtas Garh The underground rooms inside the place constitute the most remarkable feature. One has to go down with the help of a petromax lamp or a powerful torch. There are superb scrolls on the conglomerate on the walls and no inscriptions at all One room has a big *kund* or water reservoir round which there is a running verandah and under a vaulted roof The *kund* is dried up during summer season There is one room only which has a skylight. The remnants indicate very superior engineering skill.

Very little appears to have been done by way of excavation in this fort and it remains almost in the same condition which prompted the observation "Too little is known of this fort" in the list of Ancient Monuments published by the Bengal Government in 1896 Buchanan mentions —"The accommodation for the ladies form a long castle on the summits of the small hill on the south side of the fort and when viewed from the north side have a grand appearance somewhat like the castle of Durham."

The Durgawati river flows just below the fort towards south-west between the two ranges of hills *

SINHA —One of the villages is Sinha in Shahabad district situated on the bank of the Ganga river and about 12 miles from Arrah, the district headquarters of Shahabad district. Sinha is a pretty big village consisting of several *tolas* The houses are mostly thatched but there are quite a few tile-roofed or brick-built houses

The people of the village could roughly be divided into three categories, first poor and landless, second, cultivators and the third group would comprise cultivators-*cum*-merchants. The landless labourers depend on daily wages which is not always sufficient to maintain the family and they often get into debt particularly when any social obligations have to be met. The rate of interest was 12 per cent or more They are jobless for about two or three months in every year. In cultivation, the farmers still use the same wooden plough, the spade and other agricultural implements of old type. The climate is dry, but the lands are fertile enough though sandy The main crops are wheat, gram, pulses, etc., which are exported to other provinces In dry season the cultivation of melon and water-melon is done on a large scale

* For further details on the topography the fortifications the citadel and the palaces inside the citadel please see *The Antiquarian Remains in Bihar* by Dr. D R Patil (Patna), 1963, pages 583—586.

The farmers are not in favour of co-operative farming. Consolidation of holdings they do not like. They do not want to hear much of arguments in their favour but vaguely think that such ideas are not going to improve their condition They do not also want any fixation or ceiling as a curb on land possession but they would rather prefer to have a ceiling fixation in the hope of getting further addition of lands. Some of them gave the opinion that 10 acres of land for a family of five persons would be quite sufficient for a decent living.

The district of Saran is on the other side of the river Ganga and Saran district grows very little of paddy. Whenever there is a scarcity, traders make an enormous profit by transporting grains in spite of embargoes, if imposed

There is another dwindling class of people—the set or ex-zamindars and big farmers. Some of the ex-zamindars after the abolition of zamindari have migrated to the towns and are trying to rehabilitate themselves by taking to some business There are very few big farmers but they have big *pucca* houses, livestock and keep servants.

The *ghats* are leased out The charges for ferrying are 25 P. per maund of commodity, 25 P per head and 1 50 P. per cattle, but in rainy days they charge 50 P per head There are several *ghats*. The village is well connected by two main roads, namely. Arrah-Sinha road and Sariya-Sinha road They are partly metalled but are in bad condition Buses which run from Arrah station to Sinha thrice a day are privately owned and are very much over-crowded The buses are in a wretched condition *Ekka* is still in use and the charges are high *Palkis* are dying out because of the non-availability of palanquin bearers and charges which are now considered to be exorbitant Sinha has a sizeable *bazar* There are five big grain shops, 15 small grain shops, six cloth shops, five general merchants and some liquor shops There are four primary and secondary markets inside and outside the village. They are Sinha *Bazar*, Mathmalpur-Sobra *Bazar* and Sariya *Bazar*

There is not much of sociability among the three main castes of Rajputs, Brahmins and Ahirs The Rajputs dominate and have influence in the village. There is groupism or casteism and any political event like elections, etc, act as a fillip to this groupism. There are also some Harijans and other Backward Classes and a few Muslim families It is strange that there is no high school in the village There are two upper schools, one for girls and another for boys The rich people send their sons and daughters to Arrah for education Culturally there is nothing in the village and it is stagnant People amuse themselves with litigations and gossips. There are six temples and one mosque but the average number of people attending them daily is very small.

MOUJAMPUR.—The village lies at the extreme northern border of the Shahabad district by the side of the river Ganga which forms the natural boundary for the two neighbouring States of Bihar and U P. It falls within the jurisdiction of Barahara police-station and is at a distance of 14 miles from Arrah

Originally the village formed part of the Khawaspur mouza and it was situated in what is the main river bed now. This village had to shift several times with the change of the river course and the village boundary also changed simultaneously

The Arrah-Sinha road (metalled) by-passes the village in the east at a distance of four miles. Regular bus services ply on this road six times a day The Arrah railway station which is about 17 miles from the village is, therefore, easily accessible to the villagers. Another unmetalled Sinha-Belwania road passes through the heart of the village but is sadly neglected Being situated on the bank of river Ganga the village enjoys good water communication Boat is the usual means of transport. No regular ferry service is maintained.

There is also a post office which is situated in Moulighat, an integral part and a tola of the village.

The soil of the village is alluvial and very fertile It is neither sandy nor clayey. The yield even without manures is very good.

People of many castes, but only of Hindu Community, inhabit this village like Brahmin, Mahapatra, Rajput, Kayastha. Kamkar, Mallah Bin, Pareni, Yadav, Tantwa Teli, Vaishya and Barbar. The Brahmins and the Rajputs are socially and economically far superior than any of the other castes The leadership of the village also rests with the people of these two castes

Inter-caste marriage is still a taboo in the village while inter-dinning in social and religious functions is seldom practised

Nearly a decade back, an youth organisation was set-up in the village with members below 30 years of age An ashram *Gandhi Kutir* has been set up A library "Biswa Bandhu Pustakalay" is attached to the Gandhi Kutir Students of all castes above class VI and some adult population mostly attended the library which remains open in the evening The ashram has made arrangements for the regular play of volley ball, organized *Bal Krira Kendra* and formed a *Kirtan* party

Moujampur has six tolas, namely, Misir, Shanthanpur, Moujampur, Moulighat, Khawaspur and Chan Chapra These six tolas are divided equally between the two mouzas, namely, Noorpur and Sohara. In 1957, the Sohara Gram Panchayat has been formed which serves the need of three tolas of Moujampur, namely, Moulighat,

Khawaspur and Chan Chapra along with the other villages. It has directed its activities towards the betterment of communication, medical facilities and the provision of drinking water.

The Noorpur Gram Panchayat serving the need of the rest of the *tolas* of Moujampur and other neighbouring villages has started functioning only from 22nd October, 1962.

The village has only a lower primary school which is managed by a single teacher. It has been taken over by the District Board in 1955. For going in for higher stages of education, one has either to go to M. E. School at Parsurampur or to the high school at Balua lying respectively at a distance of 1½ miles and four miles from the village.

There is not a single qualified allopathic doctor though the services of one Kabiraj and one homoeopathic doctor are available inside the village. A health centre at Tribhuani which is at a distance of two miles from the village has been proposed.

The village does not grow any paddy. The main crops of the village are wheat, gram, barley, maize, *masur*, *arhar*, pea and *masuria* (millet). The cultivators appear to lay more stress on the *rabi* than on *kharif* crops due to the frequent visitations of floods.

The villagers market their products to the *farias* and *beparis* who visit the village at regular intervals. They scarcely take their produce to the distant markets. The village is well served by four important cattle markets situated in Brahmpur, Bihta, Ainkhan, and Shripalpur, all lying within a radius of 28 miles from the village.

As a large section of the inhabitants of Moujampur do not possess any land of their own or do not have any other suitable occupation their labour is available for hire on daily and annual basis. Such labour is mainly drawn from the Bin and Mallah community. The demand for agricultural labour in the neighbourhood is relatively low as compared to its supply. So agricultural labour has to migrate.

The substantial cultivators, the traders and a few villagers with outside income are the main source of credit in the village, the Government and the co-operative credit society contributing fractionally nothing in this respect.

SONE BARRAGE PROJECT AT INDRAPURI.*

Introduction

The idea of utilisation of water resources of the river Sone occurred for the first time in 1853, when Col. Dickens, the then Junior Engineer Officer of the Bengal Artillery, put forth proposals

* Contributed by Sri P. R. Guha, Chief Engineer, River Valley Projects, Bihar.

for storage of water of some of the hill streams in the Kaimore Range of South Shahabad for irrigation purposes. This was followed by another proposal in 1855 for smaller reservoirs. This included a canal from the river Sone at Bandu, below the junction of the Koel river. In 1861, Col. Dickens formulated plans and estimates for the construction of a weir across river Sone at Dehri with canals on either bank. This weir (which is known as Sone Anicut) with the entire Canal System was completed at a cost of Rs. 2.78 crores and the irrigation started in the year 1874 This scheme had envisaged irrigation of about 4.5 lakh acres of *rabi* land in a predominantly *rabi* growing belt of the Shahabad district on the west and Gaya and Patna districts on the east. But the assured supply of water made the cultivators turn their *rabi* fields into paddy and now paddy has become the dominant crop of the area The existing Sone Canal System is irrigating about six lakh acres of *Aghani* paddy, 50 thousand acres of *rabi* and 20 thousand acres of hot-weather crops

The existing anicut 2½ miles long, extends through the entire width of the river. The excessive width causes heavy siltation on the upstream side The canal head-regulators are not properly located, which result in heavy silt entry into canals, specially in the Main Eastern Canal. On this account, there is heavy recurring expenditure on silt-clearance and maintenance of the Sone Anicut.

The existing anicut floor is composed of boulder masonry founded on wells It has a crest width of five feet to accommodate automatic falling shutters. The upstream and downstream glacis slopes are 1 in 3 and 1 in 12 respectively It has been observed that losses during dry months due to leakage through the automatic falling shutters are of the order of 500 cusecs and those across the permeable weir are of the order of 2,000 cusecs. This itself speaks of the huge waste of natural water resources which could be utilised for the benefit of the people and nation During the last 40 years, the remodelling of the anicut was examined several times Finally it was considered that the anicut is no longer economical and technically dependable. Being about ninety years old, the present anicut has almost outlived its useful life. A similar anicut across the river Krishna in Andhra Pradesh suddenly gave way in September, 1952. In order to forestall such an eventuality which would spell disaster on a large tract of this State, it was decided to replace the existing anicut by a barrage about five miles upstream of Dehri

The present proposal.

The Sone Barrage Project envisages the construction of the following:—

(i) A barrage across the river Sone about five miles upstream of the existing anicut, with link canals on either bank

to connect the barrage with the existing Main Eastern and Main Western Canals. The cost of barrage and link canals is estimated to be about Rs. 11.83 crores.

(ii) The remodelling of the existing Sone Canal System at a cost of Rs. 2.6 crores to make it capable of carrying extra water-supply which is likely to be available after the construction of barrage

(iii) High Level Canals on either bank at a cost of Rs. 6.05 crores to irrigate the areas lying of the existing Sone Canals Command. These canals are expected to bring about 1 9 lakh acres of paddy, 48 thousand acres of *Rabi* and 40 thousand acres of hot-weather crops under irrigation. This scheme is under consideration and has not yet been sanctioned.

The River Sone.

The river Sone, rises from the north-eastern slope of the Vindhya hills and flows northward through the States of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar The course of the river is mainly through hilly tracts and it drains a catchment of 26,008 square miles at the Sone Anicut at Dehri in Bihar After flowing for a length of about 130 miles in Bihar, it joins the river Ganga near Koilwar in the district of Shahabad.

The maximum observed discharge of the river Sone at the anicut is of the order of 12 lakh cusecs This observed discharge fairly tallies with the discharge obtained by Dickens' formula which with a value of C-625 gives a discharge of 12 20 lakh cusecs. The design maximum flood discharge has been assumed equal to 13 lakh cusecs. Taking 20 per cent more than the maximum observed discharge, the super flood discharge has been taken equal to 14 3 lakh cusecs.

The barrage.

The proposed barrage is 4,616 ft long as against the river width of 12,500 ft. at the site. The barrage consists of 60 spillway-bays and five undersluice-bays on the left and four undersluice-bays on the right. Each bay has a 60 ft clear waterway A 22 ft. wide road bridge will be provided over the barrage which will be connected with the Grand Trunk Road through the canal service roads on both banks. This will provide suitable by-pass to the National Highway near Dehri town.

The barrage is a gravity structure designed on Khosla's theory for design of weirs on permeable foundation. The undersluices have been proposed to be regulated up to 6 0 lakh cusecs, and for river discharges exceeding that both the spillway and undersluice

gates will be fully opened. The spillway and undersluice-bays have been designed for the intensity of discharges enhanced by 20 per cent to provide against any possible concentration of flow due to defective operation of gates and other unavoidable reasons like shoaling, etc. The intensity of discharge over the spillway and undersluice crest area 338 and 378 cusecs respectively without considering any concentration of flow. Alternative designs of Raft and Gravity sections were done in the Central Water and Power Commission and it was found that the Gravity section is cheaper by about Rs 26 lakhs.

To maintain the flow of the river through barrage suitable guide banks have been provided on both banks The shape, location and size have been designed on the basis of model experiments to ensure proper river training.

The Link Canals.

(*a*) *Western* (*left bank*) *Link Canal.*—This canal takes off from the left bank of the barrage, and runs for a distance of about 6.5 miles before merging in the existing main western canal. From its off-take to a distance of 3,000 ft this canal runs in the river bed. This length is proposed to be protected by stone pitching. The remaining length is earthen. This canal is designed for 800 cusecs in its head reach The full supply depth is 10 ft. and the bed width is 150 ft. in this reach. The earthen section has a bed width of 223 ft and full supply depth of 9.5 ft at the beginning, i.e., at a distance of 3,000 ft. from its off-take.

(*b*) *Eastern* (*right bank*) *Link Canal*—This canal takes off from the right bank of the barrage and runs for a distance of about 6.50 miles before merging in the existing main eastern canal. From its off-take to a distance of 7,900 ft., this canal runs in the river bed. This length is proposed to be protected by stone pitching The remaining portion of this canal is earthen The canal is designed for 4,250 cusecs in its head reach The bed width and full supply depth in this reach are 98 ft and 8 ft. respectively. The earthen section has a bed width of 148 ft and full supply depth of 8 ft. at the beginning.

Irrigation

The Sone canals command a fertile agricultural area. The principal crops grown in the area are (*i*) paddy, (*ii*) Sugarcane, and (*iii*) *Rabi*. The study of rainfall figures of Sone command has indicated that the useful rainfall from the months of June to October in the worst year is about 16 inches against the optimum water requirement of 45 inches.

The annual irrigation expected from the project on completion is given below. This does not include High Level Canals.

	Cropping pattern as per project report in lakh acres.			Cropping pattern as per suggestion of Agricultural Adviser in lakh acres.					
	Aghani paddy.	Rabi.	Sugar-cane.	Aghani paddy.	Barley paddy.	Rabi.		Potatoes and vegetables.	Sugar-cane.
						Wheat and Barley	Peas and Gram.		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Eastern Link Canal .	2 93	0 63	0 54	1 90	0.09	0 33	0.12	0.06	0.07
Western Link Canal ..	6.53	1 37	1 16	5 69	0.27	1.10	0 35	0.18	0.22
Total ..	9 46	2 00	1.70	7 59	0.36	1 43	0.47	0.24	0.29

The figures for the High Level Canals stand as under

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Eastern High Level Canal	1 03	0 25	0 22	1 02	0.05	0.19	0 06	0.32	..
Western High Level Canal	0.84	0 22	0 20	0 87	0 04	0.16	0 06	0.27	..
Total .	1.87	0 47	0.42	1 89	0.09	0 35	0.12	0 59	

SALIENT FEATURES.

A. *The River Flow.*

(i) Catchment Area ..	26,608 sq. miles.
(ii) Average annual rainfall in the catchment.	55 inches.
(iii) Maximum observed flood	12,00,000 cusecs.
(iv) Design Discharge ..	14,30,000 cusecs.

B. *The Barrage.*

(i) Width of river ..	12,500 ft.
(ii) Length of Barrage ..	4,616 ft.
(iii) Crest Level of Weir ..	RL. 341.00 ft.
(iv) Crest Level of Undersluice	RL. 339 00 ft.
(v) Average bed level ..	RL. 340 00 ft.
(vi) Pond Level .	RL 355 00 ft
(vii) Design R F L (maximum)	RL 359 60 ft.
(viii) Maximum water level	RL 363 58 ft.

C *Canal System*

(i) *Western Link Canals*—

(a) Length	6 5 miles
(b) Gross command ..	12 76 lakh acres
(c) Full supply discharge .	7,883 cusecs.

(ii) *Eastern Link Canals*—

(a) Length . ..	6 5 miles
(b) Gross command .	4 24 lakh acres
(c) Full supply discharge .	4,250 cusecs

Details regarding proposed High Level Canals on both the banks are under examination

(iii) *Additional Yield of Crops Annually*—

(a) Foodgrains .	10 44 lakh mds.
(b) Non-foodgrains .	97 50 lakh mds.

(iv) *Monetary Value*—

(a) Foodgrains	Rs 138 64 lakhs.
(b) Non-foodgrains ..	Rs 140 40 lakhs.

D *Estimated Cost.*

Unit I—Appurtenant works of Barrage and Link Canals.	Rs 1,182 66 lakhs.
Unit II—Remodelling of Sone Canals System	Rs 260 50 lakhs.
TOTAL	Rs. 1,443.16 lakhs.

Benefits.

(*a*) *Direct.*—The expected increase in National wealth in the shape of increased agricultural products are given below:—

(*i*) Monetary value of increase in yield.

	Main Eastern Canal.	Main Western Canal.	Total.
A. Foodgrains	Rs. 30.27 lakhs.	Rs. 108.37 lakhs.	Rs. 138.64 lakhs.
B. Non-foodgrains	Rs. 31.59 ,,	Rs. 108.81 ,,	Rs. 140.40 ,,

(*ii*) The expected additional yield of crops is as detailed below:—

A. Foodgrains .. 10.44 lakh maunds.

B. Non-foodgrains .. 97.50 lakh maunds.

(*iii*) On the basis of existing water rates prevalent in Sone Canal System, it is expected that annual revenue from irrigation will be of the order of Rs. 128.98 lakhs.

(*b*) *Indirect.*—In addition to the direct benefits described above, various indirect benefits detailed below are likely to accrue from the project:—

(*i*) There will be increase in the value of land due to introduction of irrigation to the new areas. The new acres to be brought under irrigation mainly lie under the command of High Level Canals, only a small portion lies in the existing command. With the completion of High Level Canals it is expected that there will be an increase of about Rs 36.58 crores in the value of land.

(*ii*) *Increase in employment*.—Money value for this indirect benefit to the community cannot be worked out. There will be increased scope of employment due to increased cultivation and due to increase in National Wealth the standard of living of the rural population will rise and condition of livestock will improve due to better supply of fodder and water.

Progress of Work.

The work of construction of the barrage actually started from November 1962, although the work order was given to M/s Hindustan Construction Co., Ltd., sometimes in February, 1962. The construction firm utilised this period from February, 1962 to November, 1962 in construction of their camp buildings and establishing their labour colony and also for erecting the crushing and hatching plant,

etc. The construction camp for housing the supervisory staff of the department as well as access road to the quarry and other preliminary works were completed earlier.

The Civil Engineering portion of the barrage is likely to be completed by June, 1965 and supply and erection of gates by June, 1966.

High Level Canals.

The High Level Canals could not be sanctioned as yet as the State of Uttar Pradesh has now indicated that they cannot give any minimum guaranteed supply of water from Rihand dam, although initially they indicated that it may be possible for them to give a minimum guaranteed supply of 6,000 cusecs, on the basis of which the two High Level Canals were proposed.

In order to get the required supply for feeding the High Level Canals, it is proposed to construct a dam across North Koel River near village Kutku, which will not only make adequate supplies available for the two High Level Canals, but also will be able to irrigate about five lakh acres more in the dry districts of Palamau and Gaya if a weir is constructed across North Koel River near village Mohammadganj. This scheme is under submission to the Planning Commission for inclusion in the Fourth Plan.

SORHA.—The village is situated on the Kaimur hills at a distance of about 15 miles from Adhaura, the block headquarters towards south and 51 miles from Bhabua, the subdivisional headquarters It has an area of 633.35 acres and 25 households with a population of approximately 130 persons.

There is an irrigational bundh in the village. There are four rural houses for the Adivasis and a drinking well in the village. This is an Adivasi village

SURAJPURA.—Regarding Surajpura, the last *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) mentions —"A village four miles north west of Bikramganj, containing a dispensary, which was opened in July of 1904 and a post office Population (1921) 2,908 The village is the headquarters of a Kayastha zamindari family, of which the late head, Raja Rajeshwar Prasad Singh, was noted for his public spirit and liberality He has a worthy successor in the present Raja Radhika Raman Prasad Singh, who is the Chairman of the Shahabad District Board, while the Raja's younger brother, Kumar Rajivaranjan Prasad Sinha represents south Shahabad in the Legislative Council The family is said to have come two hundred years ago from Mirzapur to Surajpura, where they built the existing Rajbari which Dr. Buchanan saw* in 1812."†

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* *Eastern India*, Vol I, page 415

† *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), page 190.

In 1930 a high school and a library were opened. Both were named after Raja Rajeshwar Prasad Singh. The high school was upgraded to the standard of a higher secondary school in 1961. There are 27 teachers and 1,120 students. Raja Radhika Raman Prasad Singh, a noted literary figure left the Chairmanship in the year 1927. Kumar Rajivaranjan Sinha became the Speaker of the Bihar Legislative Assembly. He died in 1948.

The village is under the jurisdiction of Dawath police-station and Dawath Block. Its population according to the census of 1951 was 4,325 persons, i.e., 2,220 males and 2,105 females with 761 households.*

The village has a mixed population consisting of agriculturists, businessmen and service holders. The main castes are Kayasthas, Brahmans, Mohammadans, etc

The village has a post and telegraph office, a State dispensary with 20 beds, two lower primary schools, two upper primary schools and a higher secondary school There is co-education in the schools.

There is a big library in this village named after Raja Rajeshwar Prasad Singh. There are about 2,500 books in this library. It was established in 1930. The daily readership is not large.

There are three big temples in the village. In front of the temples there is a big tank constructed by the Raj family of Surajpura. The tank has been useful to the villagers.

The village is electrified. There are about five flour mills in the village.

There is a statutory Gram Panchayat in the village. A weekly *hat* is held on Saturdays and Tuesdays

The village has a grain market. The supply is local as well as from Patna and Arrah. Potato is imported from Bhadauli and Nasriganj. There are a large number of retailers and a few wholesalers. It deals in tobacco trade imported from Kesath, Muzaffarpur and Gazipur and it is locally consumed.

TELARI —Under Chenari police-station of Sasaram subdivision is a village situated on Telari-Chenari road. It is a small trading place dealing in small quantities of agricultural produce obtained locally and consumed locally

TELHAR KUND —A water-fall at a distance of about ¼ of a mile from the village Karar on the Bhabua-Adhaura road is known as Telhar Kund Due to the precipice it is difficult to go very close to the water-fall. The drop is about five hundred feet deep and the

* *District Census Hand-Book of* 1951, page 204.

water runs through a gorge. During the rains the water-fall carries some 50 feet wide stream of water, but is dry during the hot season. At the base of the fall there is a *kund* which contains water throughout the year. Just near the bottom of the fall where the *kund* has been formed, a *Sadhu* has made his abode in a hut. The scenery is very beautiful and is worth a visit It is under the jurisdiction of the Adhaura Community Development Block.

TILOKHAR.—This village is at a distance of about six miles from Nauhatta Its population according to 1961 census as supplied by the Block office is 1,278 persons The area of the village is 1,224.95 acres The village is inhabited by non-tribals. The main produce are paddy and chilli.

The village has one upper primary school, one library, one post office (at Parchha—about one mile from Tilokhar).

The Block has sunk 16 minor irrigation wells and one drinking well, and constructed one *Ahar*. Two drinking wells and four *Ahars* were also repaired by the Block.

TILOTHU.—In old *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), this village has been mentioned as 'Tilothu'* but in the District Census Hand-Book of Shahabad (1951) it has been mentioned as 'Telathu'. Its thana number according to 1951 census, is 275 having an area of 2,368 acres and 672 number of occupied houses The total population of the village is 3,870 souls (1,953 males and 1,917 females) out of which 417 persons (342 males and 75 females) have been enumerated as literate There are one Lower Primary, one Urdu Lower Primary, one Urdu Upper Primary and one High Schools in the village.† There is also an inspection bungalow at the village. It is under the Sasaram police-station The 1961 census figures are not available as yet (March, 1964)

The old Gazetteer (1924) gives the following account of the place:—"At Tilothu, a village half way between Sasaram and Rohtasgarh, is a mosque of the time of Aurangzeb, the date of which corresponds to 1677 A.D. The palace is, however, mentioned in older records, and from the inscription on a tomb, at the foot of Rohtasgarh (1638 A.D.), we learn that it was a part of the *jagir* of Ikhlas Khan, who was then the *kiladar* or commandant of the Rohtas fort. Here was the residence of the *kiladar*; in later years Raja Shah Mal lived here, where his descendants still reside. The history of the Tilothu estate has been given in Chapter XI. Babu Radha Prasad Sinha, the present holder of the estate, which is now under management of the Court of Wards, is sixth in descent from Raja Shah Mal. He still has in his possession the letter signed by

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), page 198

† *District Census Hand-Book of Shahabad* (1951), page 282

Hector Munro, written in August of 1764, which led to the surrender of Rohtasgarh; and the *sanad*, bearing the joint seal of Shah Alam and the Company, granting Haveli Rohtas in *jagir* to his ancestor"*

This estate has now vested in the State Government.

The place has a large market called Tilothu Bazar. A first class road passes through it from Dehri to Rohtas.

The place has a higher secondary school The present high school is located in the old house of Sri Radha Prasad Sinha (ex-landlord) Besides there are a junior basic school, a middle school for girls, a District Board dispensary, a veterinary hospital, the office of the Rohtas Co-operative Development and Cane Marketing Union Ltd, a post and telegraph office and a railway station of the same name on the Dehri-Rohtas Light Railway. The village is electrified.

There is a good recreation club called Tilothu Recreation Club with an expansive play ground in front of it The Club has a radio set, a library with nearly two thousand books and a reading room. The family of the ex-zamindar continues to be a land-mark.

It is a large trading centre It deals mainly in rice, wheat, gram, *khesari*, barley, mustard-seeds, groundnut, *gur*, chillies, mustard-oils and pulses, obtained locally and exported within the district. Cattle fair is held here on the occasion of *Kartic Purnima*.

Near about Tilouthu there is a number of rough wooden images suggesting the prevalence of Bir Kuar Cult among the *Ahirs*.

TUTRAHI—The *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924) gives the following account of the place—"About five miles west of Tilothu, where the Tutrahi, a branch of the Kudra river, leaves the hills, is a place of the same name sacred to the goddess Sitala It lies at the head of a gorge half a mile long, where the stream falls over a sheer precipice 180 to 250 feet high, and collects in a pool at the bottom High upon the rocks, on a small natural terrace, stands a small statue of Mahishamardini, or Jagaddhatri, as the goddess is called in an inscription close by From this inscription (1158 A D) we learn that the Nayaka Pratapadhavala, a local chief of whom there are other records at Rohtasgarh and on the Tarachandi rock near Sasaram, made a pilgrimage to the Tutrahi falls accompanied by his whole household, five female slaves, his treasurer, his door-keeper and his Court *pandit* Other inscriptions, several centuries later, are found at the same place round the figure of a female deity rudely carved in the rock"†

* *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), pages 100 101

† *District Gazetteer of Shahabad* (1924), page 101.

There have been many changes since the days of J. F. W. James. The fall has now become nearly extinct and the rivulet Tutrahi has dried up. Of course, during the rainy season the rivulet becomes lively and the fall starts. This makes it good picnic spot and people from within the district and outside visit this place. This is one of the best natural beauty spots in the district. The pool down below the fall has also dried up The small statue of Mahishamardini or Jagaddhatri is there and the inscription engraved close by the statue is still present along with the inscription around the place.*

Place Names in Shahabad District.

On a personal investigation in the Sadar subdivision of Shahabad district, it was found that the names of quite a number of villages have special significance The Rajputs form the predominant element in these villages. Many of the Rajputs of this district are family proud and mention their association with Kuar Singh. There are reasons to hold that some of the place names are associated with the military movements or the military ancestry of the villagers. It further appears that the names of some of the villages have slightly undergone a change and most probably within the last one century. Some details of the place names of twenty villages are given below:—

Serial no.	Old name of the village.	Correct name of the village	Details of the correct name.
1.	Udwantnagar	Udwantnagar	The village is situated about five miles towards the south of Arrah, the District Headquarters. It is under Arrah police-station and Udwantnagar Development Block The village is said to have been set up in the name of Shri Udwant Singh, an ancestor of Babu Kunwar Singh The Garhwar Rajputs form the bulk of the population
2.	Garha ..	Garha .	A village in Sadar subdivision located about two miles west of Udwantnagar. It is a *tola* of Garhwar Rajputs and Harijans.

* For further details on the rock-cut and other images, inscriptions and forts, please see *The Antiquarian Remains in Bihar*, by Dr D. R. Patil (Patna), 1963, pages 576—578

Serial no.	Old name of the village.	Correct name of the village.	Details of the correct name.
3.	Sakhua ..	Shankhua ..	It is at a distance of 2½ miles towards south-east of Udwantnagar and under Udwantnagar Development Block. It is a *garh*. Bagwa Rajputs had come to this village and lived here. *Shankh* means 'Victory'. The villagers took active part in the 1857 struggle.
4.	Belaur ..	Balwar ..	It is under Udwantnagar Development Block at a distance of 4 miles towards south of Udwantnagar. *Balwar* means 'Strong' and indicates the toughness of the villagers During 1857, the village was one of the battle fields. The legend of this village is that it was the *garh* of Raja Bawan who had constructed fifty-two ponds in the village. The remains of about 30 ponds still exist in the village.
5.	Seogar ..	Sewagar .	It is about one mile towards east of Udwantnagar and under Udwantnagar Development Block "Sewagar" means a place to welcome the guests It is said that the "Kawachhania" Rajputs who form the bulk of the population have always been very hospitable.
6.	Kharwani ..	Kharawani ..	It is about 2½ miles towards east of Udwantnagar and under Udwantnagar Development Block. 'Kharawani' is composed of the words "khara+Aawni" means one who are frank and true to

Serial no.	Old name of the village.	Correct name of the village.	Details of the correct name.
			their words and refers to the Ujjain Rajputs who form the bulk of the population and took active part in 1857.
7.	Narouni .	Narwani ..	It is in Sandesh Development Block and situated at about 3½ miles towards west of Sandesh The "Bagwan" Rajputs form the bulk of the population. "Narwani" means "Nar" or "male" and suggest the inhabitants are manly and courageous The villagers took active part in the military movement in 1857.
8.	Kusere ..	Kushagre	It is about 4 miles west of Sandesh and under Sandesh Development Block "Kushagre" is composed of two words, 'Kush+Agrey' means strong, brave and courageous like "kush" the son of God "Rama". The "Bagwan" Rajputs who form the bulk of the population and took active part in 1857 have apparently suggested the name.
9.	Surni ..	Shurnih ..	It is about 2 miles towards west of Udwantnagar and under Udwantnagar Development Block. "Shur" means "the brave" and "nih" means the abode. The villagers proudly recall their ancestors taking part in 1857 movement.

Serial no.	Old name of the village.	Correct name of the village.	Details of the correct name
10.	Bagwan ..	Bagiawan ..	It is about 8 miles towards north of Sandesh, the Block headquarters. The legend is that after the battle of "Haldhighati", the "kachwaha" and "Sukhar" Rajputs came to this place and settled. They called themselves to be "Bagi" or one who is prepared to accept a challenge. This village had taken active part in 1857 movement
11.	Garahani ..	Garhani ..	It is situated at about 1[illegible] miles towards south of Arrah, the district headquarters and under Charpokhri Development Block The village has an old *garh* or fort The villagers took active part in the military movement. Some of the descendants of Kuar Singh's family live at this village.
12.	Semraon ..	Samraon ..	It is at about 2½ miles towards north of Charpokhari, the Block headquarters "Samraon" means people who are always prepared for fighting. The villagers took active part in 1857.
13	Lahthan ..	Lohthan ..	It is at about 4 miles towards west of village Piro and under Piro Block headquarters The Ujjain Rajputs form the bulk of the population. Lohthan is composed of two words, i.e., "Loha" and "than". It means the place of the steel and refers to the

Serial no.	Old name of the village.	Correct name of the village.	Details of the correct name.
			bravery of the inhabitants. The villagers had taken share in 1857 and other movements and still contribute to the Police and Armed forces.
14.	Pitaro ..	Pitro ..	It is about six miles towards north of Sandesh, the Block headquarters. The word Pitro means those who make promise and are ready to fight to implement the promise.
15.	Nagri ..	Naagri ..	It is situated at about 2 miles towards north of Piro, the Block headquarters. The Bhumihar Brahmins and Nagbansi Rajputs form the bulk of the population in the village It was one of the *Akharas* of Babu Kunwar Singh Nagari means a town. The village was important even before the 1857 movement had broken out.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCKS *

Adhaura Block

This block was started on the 26th January, 1957 (Republic Day), as a Pilot Project and upgraded to Multipurpose Tribal Welfare Project on 1st April, 1957 It reached its stage II on 1st April 1963 The area of the Block is 394 square miles and covers 131 villages out of which 29 are unpopulated The block is situated on the plateau of Kaimur hills It coincides with the area of Adhaura police station and is under the jurisdiction of Bhabua sub-division The block headquarters is situated at Adhaura which is also the headquarters of the police-station of the same name and lies almost in the centre of the area

It is bounded on the north by Bhagwanpur Block, on the south by Chainpur, Bhabua and Chanari police-stations of Bhabua sub-division, Bhawanathpur police-station of Palamau district, on the

* Some of the Blocks were personally visited for study. Appraisal reports have been given elsewhere

east by Rohtas and Chenari Blocks in Sasaram subdivision and on the west by the Panumganj police-station of Mirzapur district of Uttar Pradesh and Chainpur police-station of Bhabua subdivision. The total population of the block according to 1961 census is 16,985, of whom 8,737 are males and 8,248 females. The number of households is 3,223. This gives a population of 43 persons per square mile and 166 persons (round number) per inhabited village when the density of population for the district of Shahabad as a whole, according to 1961 Census, is 730 persons per square mile. According to a survey made by the block authority in 1957, the population of the block was 14,746 of whom 9,038 were tribals. Hence according to that survey the percentage of tribals was 61. The tribals at that time consisted of:—*

Kharwar	7,463 persons.
Chero	533 ,,
Oraon	938 ,,
Korwa	104 ,,
TOTAL	9,038 ,,

There is no reason to think that the percentage of the tribals has been reduced.

The headquarters of the block is at Adhaura village which is at a distance of 30 miles from Bhabua town, the subdivisional headquarters and is approachable by a steep fair-weather jeepable road opened in 1959. It is at a distance of about 46 miles from Bhabua Road Station of the Grand Chord Line of the Eastern Railway. The block has only one post office for the whole area. The post office is situated at Adhaura. It has no telegraph office of its own. It is served by the Bhabua Telegraph Office. It has telephonic communications with Bhabua, but the communications are liable to frequent interruptions. The postal communication is kept up by runner system—the distance being covered in three stages by different runners. The post office has been in existence for a long time. It now mostly carries letters, etc., of the block office in addition to the mails of the police thana.

No conveyance is available at or *via* Adhaura and people have to cover the distance from Adhaura to Bhabua on foot or on ponies. Similar is the case of communication with Chenari in Sasaram subdivision. Trucks ply from Varanasi to Adhaura to carry forest produce on seasonal forest roads. The villages in the block have no means of communication with each other or with headquarters of the block except by the hill pathways or, at places by seasonal

* The information has been supplied by the office of the Block Development Officer, Adhaura.

forest roads. This is one of the handicaps which preys upon the minds of Government servants posted in the area. The other handicap is lack of good drinking water. People have to depend mostly upon Chuans which are nothing more than hollows where water collects from seasonal rainfall or from springs. These are the handicaps that prevent the block authorities and other Government servants from carrying on their duties speedily and thoroughly as would have been possible with better facilities of communications and drinking water. This lack of means of communication and constant fear of wild beasts and venomous snakes, specially the black cobra, the deadliest of snakes, act as nightmare for the touring staff.

The area is very backward educationally. There are five Residential Basic Schools for Adivasis, four of which are Junior Basic Schools and one Senior Basic School. Junior Basic Schools are those schools which are intended to teach up to the standard of Class V and Senior Basic Schools teach up to Class VIII The Junior Basic Schools are at Kuluhan, Bargaon, Athan and Sarki and the Senior Basic School is at Deori Each of the Schools at Kuluban, Bargaon, Athan and Sarki provide 30 students with free education including food, lodging, etc., while at Deori such provision is for 75 students Recently (1963) the State Government have started a Higher Secondary School with three teachers and with 20 students in Class VIII

There is a State Allopathic Dispensary at Adhaura, one Ayurvedic Dispensary at Sarodag, a Homoeopathic Dispensary at Athan and Unani Dispensary at Jamuninar Besides these there are three Health sub-centres, viz, at Chandherna, Khondhur and Marpa in the block.

Previously there were eight Training-*cum* Production Centres in the block area but seven have died out leaving only one at village Deori having carpentry section only. But these Training-*cum*-Production Centres could be of no use to the trainees who have not taken up the profession learnt at these centres. There is one Tasar Seed Supply Sub-centre at village Sarodag Rope making and bamboo-wares are the only cottage industries in the block

The markets for the people of this area are at Chenari in Sasaram subdivision (24 miles), Bhabua (36 miles) and Chutia in Sasaram subdivision (26 miles) from Adhaura. The only means of communication for trade and commerce are by bullocks and ponies.

The entire block area is covered with hills On the plateau enclosed by these hills there are grasslands to which people from the plains send their cattle for grazing during the rainy season and bring them back on the termination of the season The hills have dense forest and there are spots in this block which offer a fine scenery. The forests have many trees of economic value. The more important of the trees are *Khyr, Palas, Amaltas, Dhan, Chirunji,*

Kusum, Sal, Asan, Bamboo, *Tend, Amla, Bar, Kadam, Arjun* and *Kendu*. It also produces creepers and grasses of which Mahwal, a creeper and *Kusa, Bagai, Chiti* are important grasses which are used for rope-making and thatching roofs. The forests contain a large variety of animals. Tigers, bears and leopards abound. Deer of the kind *Sambhar, Nilgai* and *Kotar* are found on the plateau. Besides these, wild boar, hyena, jackal, fox, monkies and hares also abound. Of birds, patridges, pea-fowl, *Kual*, jungle fowl, doves of various kinds, green pigeons, wood peckers, owls, *bulbuls, shamas, mainas*, parrots, etc., also abound. The forests as well as the villages abound in deadly snakes.

Of the forests produce *Chirunji, Kendu* leaves and charcoal are exported from this area to markets of Uttar Pradesh.

The important agricultural products of this block are, paddy, wheat, gram, *kurthi, kodo, sawan, ramtil* and maize. But they are not sufficient for the local people who have to work as labourers or feed on jungle produce like *piar, mahua tend* for a certain period of the year.

The great difficulty that the farmers in the block have to face is lack of irrigation facilities.

There are two District Board Dak Bungalows in the block—one at Adhaura and the other at Karar. There are twelve Gram Panchayats in the block.

The total revenue demand, collection and percentage of collection since the inception of the block is given below:—*

Year.	Demand.			Collection.			Percentage of total collection.
	Arrear.	Current.	Total.	Arrear.	Current.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1957-58	1,796 96	16,482 97	18,279 93	629 49	11,966 74	12,596.23	73.3
1958-59	5,848 00	16,688 69	22,536 69	4,791.72	15,514.78	20,306.50	90
1959-60	2,183 06	17,392.36	19,475 42	2,004.88	16,918.27	18,923.15	96
1960-61	22,467 04	23,124.34	45,591 38	20,199.48	22,005.77	42,205.25	92·6
1961-62	6,041 04	23,677.39	29,718 43	2,773 00	21,918.31	24,691.30	83
1962-63	6,031 69	24,282.36	30,314.05	6,031.69	24,282.36	30,314.05	100

* The figures have been supplied by the office of the Deputy Collector in charge of Land Reforms, Bhabua.

The following statement gives a synopsis of the organisation and activities of the block:—

A. Name of the block—Adhaura
Subdivision—Bhabua.
District—Shahabad.
Started in 1957.

B. Area of the block--2,26,509 acres.
Villages—131 (unpopulated—29)
Population—16,985.
Households—3,697.

Organisation.

1. Project Executive Officer—1.
2. Assistant Project Executive Officer—Unfilled.
3. Gram Panchayat Supervisor—1.
4. Agriculture Extension Supervisor—1.
5. Animal Husbandry Supervisor—1.
6. Welfare Inspector—1.
7. Co-operative Extension Supervisor—1.
8. Social Education Organiser—1.
9. Lady Education Organiser—Unfilled.
10. Sub-Inspector of Schools—1 (unfilled).
11. Circle Inspector—1.
12. Medical Officer—1 (unfilled)
13. Village Level worker—12.
14. Soil Conservation Supervisor—Unfilled.
15. Local Auditor—1.
16. Gram Sevak—12.
17. Junior Statistical Assistant—1.
18. Overseer—1

Agriculture

(a) *Improved seeds distributed—*
   (1) Paddy—12,711 mds., for 15,543 acres.
   (2) Wheat—352 mds., for 813 acres.

(b) *Manures—*
   (1) Ammonium sulphate—285 mds., for 565 acres.
   (2) Superphosphate—147 mds., for 565 acres.
   (3) Other—19 mds., for 565 acres.

(c) Compost Pits—2,816 mds, used 91,545 maunds.
Seed multiplication farm—Nil.

A *Animal Husbandry*—

1	Artificial Insemination Centre ..	Nil
2	Bulls distributed	29
3.	White Boar distributed	5
4	He-goats	28
5	Birds distributed	25
6.	Eggs	296
7	Pullets	415

B *Treatment*—

Veterinary Dispensary Class I at Adhaura ..	1
Class III (sub-centres) .. .	4

C. (1)	Rinderpest ..	21,862
(2)	H S	5,865
(3)	B Q	3,261
(4)	Anthrax	380
(5)	Anti-biotic ..	Nil
	Animals treated in Veterinary dispensary sub-centres	20,479

Irrigation—

(1) (a) Percolation wells—8—Land irrigated—216 acres.
(b) Percolation wells—under construction—46.

(2) Boring tube well—1 for 130 acres
(3) Tank—Nil
(4) Persian Wheel—Nil

A *Health*—

1	Health centre .. .	1
2	Health sub-centre . .	3
3.	Medicine Boxes distributed	24

B *Patients treated*—

1	Malaria	143
2	Typhoid .. .	16
3	Dysentery	169
4.	Diarrhoea ..	155
5.	Measles .. .	Nil
6.	Influenza	5
7	Others	18,320
8	Persons vaccinated	33,851
9	Persons Inoculated	26,824
10.	Family Planning—No. of persons advised ..	27

Sanitation—

(1) (*a*) Drinking wells completed	18
(*b*) Under construction	33
(2) Wells repaired	11
(3) Soakpits	41
(4) Borehole latrines	2
(5) Trench latrine	Nil

Education—

(1) Lower Primary Schools	12
(2) Upper Primary Schools	22
(3) Junior Basic Schools	4
(4) Senior Basic School	1
(5) High School	1
Total educational institutions	40

No of students—

1. Total Boys	1,380
2 Total Girls	283
3. Scheduled Castes and Tribes	1,104

Scheduled Castes and Tribes getting scholarship—

Boys	37
Girls	10
Harijan Adibasi hostels	5
Residential schools	5

Literates—

Males	1,675
Females	125
Library	26
Books	5,874
Natak Mandali	21
Community centres	78
1. *Gram Panchayat*	12
No. of village under *Gram Panchayat*	131
2. Work of *Gram Panchayat*—	
Schools	13
Community Hall	7
Panchayat House	1
Chuan	5
Wells repaired	21
Roads repaired	19½ miles.
Roads constructed	14½ miles.
Soakage pits	46
Compost pits	130
Housing for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.	23 constructed.

Co operative Societies—

1	No of Societies	39
2	Total no. of members	1,140
3	Total share capital	Rs. 81,391
4	Loans advanced . ..	Rs. 71,478
5.	Loans repaid by the members .	Rs. 56,782

Communications—

1	New roads constructed by the block .	72½ miles
2	Old roads repaired	39 miles
3.	Culverts constructed	46

Industries--

1	Carpentry centre (training-*cum*-production)	1
2	Value of articles sold by the centre .	Rs 8,146 47
3	Grain *golas*	2

Total expenditure up to date (31st October, 1963)—

		Rs
1	Block Headquarters .	7,52,283 78
2	Agriculture .	68,045 94
3	Veterinary and Animal Husbandry ..	91,899 00
4	Co operative	1,36,392 13
5	Irrigation	65,210 00
6	Health and Rural Sanitation	1,36,442 11
7.	Education	47,233.00
8	Social Education	83,934 18
9	Communication .	2,33,602.00
10	Rural Arts and Crafts Industries	2,21,615 15
11	Housing for staff .	1,34,673 84
12	Miscellaneous Survey Research	1,050 00
13	Rural Housing	98,967 00
14	Suspense .. .	25,882 43
	TOTAL .	20,97,170 56

Arrah Block.

This block with 130 villages was opened on 2nd October 1956. Its area is 42,939 acres Four villages have been transferred to Uttar Pradesh There are 20 Gram Panchayats and 12 *halkas*. The population of the block in 1961 is 1,51,184 with 24,035 households.

Arrah, the block headquarters, is well connected both by roadways and railways. The block has constructed the following *katcha* roads:—

(1) Arrah-Mahuli to Bheldumran Road.

(2). Arrah-Sinha to Pipra Jaipal Road.

(3) Arrah-Salempur Udaypur Road

(4) Jamira-Alipur Road.

(5) Dhamar Road.

(6) Arrah-Salempur Road to Arrah-Mahuli Road *via* Banaili.

There are about 15 villages that have been electrified There are many temples and mosques in Arrah and some of the villages. This block has put in 64 irrigational wells and 19 tube-wells. The cottage and small-scale industries in this block are carpentry and leather industry Large *melas* are held at Dhamar and Singhikala. *Hats* are held at Izari, Hematpur, Dhobhan and Dhaman villages. The villages Sundarpur Barja, Izari, Jamira and Dhamar have a population of more than 2,000 persons

There are District Board Dispensary at Jamira, *Ayurvedic* Dispensary at Shukulpura There is an Inspection Bungalow at Salempur. There is a library at Dhamar village

There are 33 lower primary schools, 14 upper primary, five junior basic, two senior basic, nine middle and two high schools in this block.

Barhara Block.

The Barhara block is one of the constituent units of the Sadar subdivision of Shahabad It is named after the village Barhara as is the police-station but the headquarters of the block administration is located in the village Parara-Semaria which is almost contiguous to the village Barhara Formerly a part of Udwantnagar, Barhara block as a separate unit was inaugurated on 2nd October, 1957

Barhara has a riverine contour, and streams flow in criss-cross fashion throughout the area though they mostly dry up with the retreat of the monsoon or are reduced to small water-pools The two main rivers are the Ganga and the Sone The former runs almost parallel to the northern boundary of the block across which the districts of Chapra sprawls, while the eastern boundary is flanked by the river Sone, which effects a junction with the river Ganga at Bishunpur-Bindgawan—the easternmost point of this block Thirty-three miles long from Bindgawan in the east to Piparpati in the west with an area of 64 square miles, the Barhara Block has according to the 1951 Census a population of 85,008 persons (40,236 men and 44,772 women) distributed over a total number of 56 inhabited villages. In six villages, namely, Babura, Ekwana, Pharhada, Saraiya,

Gundi and Sinha the population numbers above 2,000. However, the population is wholly homogeneous, there being no tribals in the part The villages have been grouped together into nine *Halkas* for the purposes of revenue administration whose total annual revenue amounts to Rs. 2,48,948 39 (inclusive of Cess plus Miscellaneous, Education Cess) with an average of 80 per cent collection recorded in the last four years

Of historical remains or sites, the Barhara Block has none; though names of certain villages are suggestive of having had historical associations, like "English—chain" a village which is commonly supposed to have been an Army Cantonment of the East India Company during 1857 There is no church nor are there any mosques or temples of antiquity, although there is still at village Gundi a fairly old temple of "Rangnath" surrounded by ageing and crumbling houses that testify to the feudal (Zamindari) prosperity the village had once known

Comparatively speaking this area is not as happy in its facilities for communication as are the area of the southern Shahabad partly because of its sandy soil and partly because of the mild degree of flood which visits this part almost every year. The Block has fair-weather roads which connect every village, the country-side is dotted with Post and Telegraph Offices as with scores of schools. There are two hospitals (at Manichapra and Gaziapur), three medical sub-centres (at Bishunpur, Batua and Pharna) and four Veterinary sub-centres (at Bishunpur, Pharna, Saraiya and Balua) and one Class I Veterinary dispensary (at block headquarters), all run by the block administration From the district headquarters Arrah Town major roadways move towards the north into Barhara Block. Both begins at the Gangey bridge The first one leads north-west to Saraiya—an important village of the block—where a line branches off further west to Sinha *via* Gangher, while the main trunk continues further north for a mile or so where it bifurcates into two—one leads straight to Gaziapur, the other leads to Sinha The second Trunk from the Gangey bridge moves north east passes through block headquarters and terminates at village Ekwana This road is popularly referred to as Arrah-Ekwana Chapra road Villagers often refer to the good old days with nostalgia when it was a regular commercial route between Arrah and Chapra It is, however, interesting to note that in this part there is none of those staging posts or dak bungalows, so common in other parts This may perhaps be due to the proximity of this area to both the district headquarters So that it was never thought worthwhile to break one's journey at Barhara.

The geographical features and contour of the block area have naturally shaped the agricultural pattern of Barhara. Paddy or allied *aghani* crops are not grown because of the annual floods (which otherwise cause no damage) though the rich silt deposited

every year yields a fine harvest of "rabi" crops. The bulk of labour is primarily agricultural and broadly speaking is wholly 'unskilled" for unlike the southern Shahabad, industry has made no headway here. The scope of mobility of labour and immigration amongst the agricultural labour is, therefore, limited—limitation from which the lower-middle and upper-middle class people are remarkably free. Members of this middle class constitute a bulk of the 'wage-earning' and 'service-holder' class However, a certain degree of immigration does occur amongst the agricultural labour. This immigration is seasonal and of purely temporary character. Every year as soon as the 'rabi' operations are over a great trek from the paddy growing areas of the south begins, peasants and landless labourers cross over to the south to join the army of harvesters. The harvesting being over they return to their villages. So the seasonal immigration is to be attributed to seasonal unemployment, the propinquity and the ready availability of better paid job-markets (agricultural) that does not require specialised or skilled labour It has no perceptible adverse incidence on the local economy The higher earnings of the labour resulting from the imperfect elasticity of supply, during the timelag between the migration to and return from job-markets is, however, temporary In final analysis, it would seem that the agricultural pattern (producing only one seasonal crop *rabi*) which does not ensure continuous employment is chiefly responsible for the seasonal immigration Efforts are being made to see if a new cropping pattern, especially cash-crops may be introduced to the advantage of the cultivators Here and there patches of sugarcane (flood resisting) are growing up and it is hoped that tobacco would be introduced shortly. It is generally agreed that the agricultural economy would be immensely rejuvenated, indeed, revolutionised, if a crop could be harvested before the onset of floods. An essential prerequisite for such contingency is availability of large-scale irrigational facilities. Details of the important projects undertaken are stated in Appendix I.

APPENDIX 1.

Total number of Drinking wells undertaken	211	*39,794 07
Total number of Drinking wells completed	118	
Total number of Irrigation wells undertaken	338	†92,144.27
Total number of Irrigation wells completed	172	
Tube-wells (hand) . ..	50	
Borings ..	5	(Progress)

*Includes hand tube-well.
†Includes boring.

APPENDIX 2.

List of *Hats*, etc.

Sohra Bazar—Village Sohra

Nathmalpore Bazar—Village Nathmalpore.

Matukpore Bazar—Village Matukpore.

Gundi Hat—Village Gundi

Saraiya Bazar—Village Saraiya

Sinha Meli—Village Sinha

Bhabua Block.

This block was started in 1956 It consists of 289 villages with an area of 81,942 66 acres There are 24 Gram Panchayats The population of the block according to 1961 Census is 87,320 persons with 17,662 households

This block headquarters and about 15 villages are electrified. 50 drinking wells and 39 tube wells for irrigation purposes have been sunk by the block

There are about 38 temples and six mosques in this block. The cottage industries in this block are carpentry, blacksmithy and carpet-weaving

There are two *melas* in this block, one is held at Seon village and the other at Miriyan

The communication of this block is bad This block has only eight miles of *pucca* road running from Bhabua to Ratwar and four miles from Bhabua to Betari There is one Subdivisional Hospital and one Dak Bungalow at Bhabua

There is a Class I Veterinary dispensary at the headquarters and three field dispensaries

There are 40 lower primary, 15 upper primary, 15 junior basic, four senior basic five middle and two high schools in this block

Bhagwanpur Block

The block was started in October 1957 with headquarters at Bhagwanpur. It is situated at a distance of seven miles to the south of Bhabua the subdivisional headquarters and connected with *kutcha* roads on the way to Adhoura

The block covers an area of 159.11 square miles with 272 villages (populated 186 and unpopulated 86) having a total population of 58,247, i e, 29,521 males and 28,726 females according to the statistics of 1961 as supplied by Bhagwanpur Block Office. There are 10 Village Level Workers under the block, hence on an average, there are 27 villages per Village Level Worker.

The position regarding the staff in 1963 (December) is as follows:—

Block Development Officer—Sanctioned one, in position one, since October, 1957.

Medical Officer—Sanctioned two, in position one

Agriculture Extension Supervisor—Sanctioned one, in position one.

Soil Conservation Extension Supervisor—Sanctioned one, in position one.

Animal Husbandry Extension Supervisor—Sanctioned one, in position one.

Co-operative Supervisor—Sanctioned one, in position one

Gram Panchayat Supervisor—Sanctioned one, in position nil.

Local Auditor—Sanctioned one, in position one.

Industrial Extension Supervisor—Sanctioned one, in position one.

Overseer—Sanctioned one, in position one.

Sub-Inspector of Schools—Sanctioned one, in position one.

Junior Statistical Supervisor—Sanctioned one, in position one

Circle Inspector—Sanctioned one, in position one.

Gram Sevaks—Sanctioned 18, in position 18

Gram Sevikas—Sanctioned two, in position nil

Programme of Development.

Agriculture—The main crops in the area are paddy, maize and *jowar*. As a result of development programme, the Japanese method of paddy cultivation and use of chemical fertilizers have been introduced.

The Community Development Block has tried to improve agriculture by supplying improved seeds With the help of the Village Level Workers, the villagers also prepare compost and apply them to their fields

It may be noted that the primitive practices of cultivation which were adopted by the cultivators have received changes due to agricultural demonstration which is conducted in every *kharif* and *rabi* seasons. Till 1963, 283 agricultural demonstrations have been conducted During 1962 the programme of shadow package was taken up, by 339 cultivators in 669 acres in 58 villages and the villagers have also appreciated the use of improved seeds Till 1963, 295 maunds of improved seeds and 57.83 tons of chemical fertilizers have been provided by the block to the villagers, 1 389 tons of compost was prepared by the cultivators.

The soil conservation work has also been started in the block since April, 1963 It was reported that 648.57 acres of lands have been put under soil conservation measures in villages Tori, Deosaranak, Makrikhoh, Papahara, Masahi, Dhangara, Nawadih, Chuon, Rajbandhua, Jaipur, Pauri, Matar, Ramgarh, Gobasachh, Rampur, Kurwa and Basuhari and Rs 7,029.00 was spent in executing the work

Animal Husbandry—The block has a dispensary in charge of an Animal Husbandry Extension Supervisor and three field dispensaries under one Live-stock Supervisor In addition to curative treatment, various preventive measures are being taken through inoculation against infectious diseases With regard to the programme of development of animal husbandry, the Block had supplied six *Hariana* bulls 70 birds, 837 pullets and 595 eggs in different villages There is also an Artificial Insemination Centre at Bhagwanpur where 2,623 cows and 440 buffaloes had been artificially inseminated since the inception of the block

The diseases from which animals generally suffer are rinderpest, haemorrhagic septicaemia, anthrax, blackquarter, foot and mouth diseases The Animal Husbandry Department deals both with the treatment and prevention of cattle diseases The affected animals are medically treated wherever possible Mass inoculation is done against those diseases for which specific vaccines are available.

The figures below supplied by Bhagwanpur Block will show the vaccination against these diseases since the inception of the block till 1963 —

1	Rinderpest	4,034
2	Haemorrhagic Septicaemia .. .	2,284
3.	Anthrax	6,041
4	Blackquarter	2,006

Statement of cases treated at the veterinary dispensary. Bhagwanpur is given below —

1	Cases treated ..	4,112
2	Number of deaths ..	51

The local draught animals are small in size and of very limited capacity The cows are generally of short stature and there is no system of milking them and using milk and milk products

Irrigation—412 percolation wells, 27 boring tube-wells, two tanks and 111 persian wheels have been provided by the block in villages These irrigate about 2,893 acres of land. No major or medium irrigation schemes have been either taken up or completed by the block.

During discussion with the Block Development Committee it was ascertained that the tribal people or *Harijans* are not in a position to pay 50 per cent of the cost towards the Irrigation Schemes and they urged the contribution should be lowered

Communications—The Block headquarters is connected with the subdivisional headquarters by a *kutcha* Bhabua-Adhaura road. Five *halkas* are reported to be connected with the Block headquarters by *kutcha* and fair-weather roads The Block has constructed 30 miles of *kutcha* road within and outside the village and 21 miles of roads have been repaired. 120 culverts have also been constructed by the block 107 villages out of 272 are accessible by Jeep.

Health and Sanitation—With the opening of the Block, one State dispensary at Bhagwanpur and three health centres at Ramgarh, Mashi and Rampur have been started. The table below supplied by Bhagwanpur Development Block will show the number of patients treated in block dispensary till 1963·—

Name of diseases.	No. of patients treated	Death
1 Dysentery	1,587	Nil
2 Diarrhoea	345	2
3 Malaria	118	Nil
4. Typhoid	24	1
5 Measles	5	Nil
6. Influenza	1,354	Nil
7 Others	49,477	Nil

92,088 persons were vaccinated and 78,389 persons were inoculated till 1963 The persons are vaccinated or inoculated several times

Secondly, to facilitate the villagers, 223 drinking wells have been provided and 37 old drinking wells have been repaired. Besides, 154 soakage pits, 605 borehole latrines and 307 trench latrines have been constructed in the villages under the block.

Education.—Before the inception of the Block, there were 17 lower primary schools, eight upper primary schools, two middle schools and one high school in the villages but after the opening of the block, 60 more primary schools, four junior basic schools, one senior basic school and one high school have been started The jurisdiction of the Sub-Inspector of Schools is confined to the block and he is placed in the Block as a member of the development team.

Co operative.—42 Multipurpose Co-operative Societies are func-tioning with 565 members Rupees 32,199.00 has been advance as agricultural loan out of which Rs 28,882.00 has been realise It was stated that loans are given only towards production item and not towards "unproductive" requirements such as marriage etc.

Cottage Industries.—Three Training-*cum*-Production centr including one weaving centre at Rampur, Tori, Masaha a functioning

Gram Panchayat.—There are 19 *gram panchayats* existing in th Block Each *panchayat* covers on an average 2,500 population. Ou of 19, 14 *gram panchayats* have been entrusted with the revenu rent collection work Till 1963, five schools and one *panchay* house have been constructed by the *gram panchayats* under th block.

Market.—There is no market or *hat* in the block There a small retail shops which supply the daily needs of the people F other requirements the villagers go to Bhabua market.

The statement below supplied by the Subdivisional Offic Bhabua will give the revenue demand and collection of Bhagwanp Block from 1957 58 to 1962 63 —

Demand (in rupees)

Year	Arrear	Current.	Total.
1957 58	18,845 20	1,39,848 44	1,58,693 6
1958-59 ..	96,602 54	1,53,485.91	2,50,088.4
1959 60	44,367 42	1,65,960.44	2,10,327.8
1960 61 . .	2,04,286 21	1,98,221 63	4,02,507
1961 62 .	2,13,749 40	2,01,436 51	4,15,186
1962 63 . .	1,59,034 86	2,02,343.30	3,61,378.1

Collection (in rupees)

Year.	Arrear	Current	Total.	Percentage of total collection
1957-58 .	12,333 77	73,967 16	86 300 93	55
1958 59 .	85,307 84	1 36,893 56	2,22,201.40	89
1959-60 .	24,143.66	1,19,100 62	1,43,244.28	68
1960-61	71,813 97	1,29,650 96	2,01,464.93	49
1961 62 ..	1,25,589.38	1,33,425 80	2,59,015.18	62
1962-63 . .	1,56,250.14	1,98,231.83	3,54,481.97	98

The statement below supplied by Bhagwanpur Block will show the expenditure on the various items since the inception of the block up to October, 1963 –

		Rs.
(1) Block Headquarters	..	3,22,381.48
(2) Animal Husbandry and Agriculture	.	24,753 69
(3) Irrigation, Reclamation and Social Conservation.		1,83,808 24
(4) Health and Rural Sanitation	..	69,780.80
(5) Education	.	24,621 98
(6) Social Education ..	..	47,040 87
(7) Rural Arts and Crafts	..	12,194 96
(8) Communications and Housing	..	25,769 20
(9) Miscellaneous	..	17,623.74
TOTAL	..	7,27,974.96

Bihea Block.

The area of this block is 72 sq miles and there are 99 villages. 66 of the villages are populated and 33 are non-populated. The block was started in April, 1955.

The Project Executive Officer-*cum*-Circle Officer of this block has reported that about 75 per cent of the villages have already been electrified It is reported that a large number of new wells have been completed and old wells repaired For improving irrigational facilities a number of new irrigation wells have been constructed while a number of old wells have been repaired. There are a number of State tube wells propelled by electricity within the block area. A little area of the south west of the block is also irrigated from some of the distributaries of Sone Canal.

There are 21 Gram Panchayats in this block The Project Executive Officer-*cum*-Circle Officer has, however, reported that there has not been much enthusiasm in the *Gram Punchayats* in fulfilling the ideas under which they have been instituted.

Paddy, maize and wheat are the main crops. Gram, *Arhar* sugarcane and vegetables are also produced. About 50 per cent of the land under cultivation yields double crops. There is a seed multiplication farm of 25 acres since 1956 There is some use of fertilisers.

There are a number of temples and mosques within this block. There is no church. Of the temples, the one of "Mahthin Dai" at Bihea proper has a religious background. It is said that one Raja

Rampal Singh was a tyrant and used to compel every newly wedded bride to pass her first night with him Mahthin Dai who comes from village Sikaria refused to obey him and this resulted in a fight in which the tyrant Raja was killed The bridegroom was also killed and Mahthin Dai performed *Satee* From then she is being worshipped

The tomb of Makhdoom-Sarfuddin-Aleha Rehmat about 1½ miles north-east of Bihea has also a religous background. It is said that this saint passed 12 years of his life in a jungle in Bihea. Once he felt hungry and was searching for food He came across a cowherd and requested him for milk The cowherd regretted that none of his animals was a milch cow On this the *Fakir* made an eccentric suggestion that one of the heifers should be milched. This was done and the heifer yielded milk.

A number of cottage industries—Smithy, pottery, carpentry, basket-making and rope making exist in different parts of the villages Blanket weaving and shoe making are better placed.

Three weekly *hats* are held at Ranisagar and Barahi. The weekly *hat* at Bihea is rather important Bi-weekly *melas* are also held in the temple near Sati Mahthin Dai One yearly fair is also held near the temple of Makhdoom Saheb Bihea is a famous business centre for grains, goods and vegetables A big cattle market is held on every Sunday

The main line of the Eastern Railway passes through the southern portion of this block and there are three stations within this area The block is well connected with buses. Other vehicles like *ekkas*, rickshaws and bullock carts are plenty.

Bihea, Ranisagar Kalyanpur, Kateha, Koriya, Gaha and Ossai villages within this block have a population of 2,000 and above.

There is one dispensary at Bihea proper and three health sub-centres in different villages There is one class I dispensary at Bihea and three veterinary sub-centres in three other villages Bihea has a Dak Bungalow

Bikramganj Block

This block was started in 1962 with its headquarters at Bikramganj Its area is 50,710.82 acres with 149 villages Its total population according to the census of 1961 is 77,948 with 8,612 households.

The block headquarters is electrified and electrification work has been done in about ten villages The block has constructed 17 drinking wells and about ten irrigational tube-wells.

There are 53 lower primary, 22 upper primary, one senior basic, seven high and two miscellaneous schools in this block The total number of school going boys and girls is 8,040.

So far as communication is concerned, the block headquarters is well connected with rail and road The Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway runs through the Bikramganj town.

The important cottage industries in this block are carpentry, blacksmithy, basket-making, etc.

Brahampur Block

This block comprising of 105 villages came into existence in 1962 as a pre-extension block It has an area of 83.1 square miles with a total population of 95,080 persons. It is under Buxar subdivision.

There are 22 Gram Panchayats The current demand including rent cess, education cess and miscellaneous in 1964 is Rs 3,29,406 62. There are several schools and co-operative societies in this block.

A big religious-*cum*-cattle fair is held at the block headquarters (Brahampur) in the months of *Falgun* and *Baisakh* Ths fair lasts for about a fortnight. Thousands of people congregate here.

Buxar Block.

Buxar block has an area of 96 sq miles with 163 villages and a population of 89,917 when the block was started The main occupation of the population is agriculture. The canals and tube-wells are the main source of irrigation

A number of villages specially on Arrah-Buxar and Buxar-Chausa roads have been electrified. For rural water-supply a number of drinking wells have been constructed and a number of old wells repaired For irrigation purposes a number of irrigation wells have been constructed and others have been repaired

The block has been taken under the Intensive District Agricultural Programme commonly known as the Package Programme With the implementation of the Package Programme it is expected that there will be a larger agricultural output.

The temple of Ahalya at a village Ahirauli has a religious background. Ahalya was the wife of the sage Gautama Muni. Charitarban area of Buxar town is taken to be the training ground of Shri Ramchandra. The town of Buxar has a great religious tradition and has been separately dealt with. Buxar town is on the border of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh and there is a remarkable turnover of various agricultural products particularly rice, wheat, gur and vegetables The other big trade centres in the block are Buxar, Chausa and Akharpur gola. Buxar and Chausa have important *hats* and *melas*. The important *melas* at Buxar town are Makar Sankranti *mela*, Bisua *mela*, Mauni *mela*, and Dashara *mela*. *Melas* are also held at Ahirauli, Nadaon, Bhabuar, Nuaon, Charitarban.

Thousands of people collect at the *mela* grounds and usually have a dip in the Ganga river. There is a good turnover of various kinds of merchandise at the *melas.* Regarding communication there is a first class metalled road between Buxar and Chausa (eight miles) on the west and Buxar to Dalsagar (six miles) on the east. The metalled road known as Buxar-Itarhi road to the south of Buxar is in a very bad condition. There is a canal road which covers about seven miles of the block area. There are a number of District Board and Local Board *Kutcha* roads in the interior which can be used only in the fair weather There are three railway stations of the Eastern railway, i.e., Baruna, Buxar and Chausa within the block.

The villages with a population of 2,000 and above in Buxar block are Chausa, Mahdah and Baruna There are Dak Bungalows at Buxar and Chausa and also an Inspection Bungalow at Buxar. Chausa is historically important as there was a battle between Humayun and Sher Shah Katkauli is important because there was a battle between the English and Sirajaudallah in 1764

Chainpur Block.

This block with 177 villages was opened in 1962 Its area is 178 square miles There are 17 Gram Panchayats. The population in 1961 is 62,504 with 10,602 households.

There are 15 villages that have been electrified

The important *melas* of this block are Harsu Brahm *mela,* Madurna Devi and Karjumal Bakhari *mela* A large cattle *mela* is held at Kurmachak

The villages Chainpur, Amawan and Hatta have a population of about 2,000 persons There is one State dispensary at Hatta-Kharigswan There are an Inspection Bungalows, one at Jagdahwa of the Irrigation Department (where there is a dam) and the other at Karkat *Garh* of the Forest Department

There is a Veterinary dispensary at Chainpur

This block has put in 68 drinking wells and ten irrigational wells

There are 42 lower primary ten upper primary, three middle, one senior basic, one high and three miscellaneous schools. There are five libraries in this block with poor readership

Charpokhari Block

This block was started as a Pre Extension stage on 2nd October, 1961 and was upgraded as Class I stage in October, 1962. This block has 110 villages and an area of 34,606 acres. There are 23 unpopulated villages. The population according to the census of 1961 is 54,048 with 7,300 households

Blanket weaving, carpentry, blacksmity are the cottage industries in this block. As regards communication, this block is well connected with Arrah and Sasaram. Charpokhari is near Arrah-Sasaram road.

The villages Pasaur, Garhani, Nagri and Semraon have more than 2,000 population.

This block has one District Board dispensary at Semraon. There are two Dak Bungalows, one at Chandi and the other at Garhani. 93 wells and two tube-wells for irrigation purpose have been sunk by the block.

There are 48 lower primary, eleven upper primary, one junior basic, three middle and three high schools in this block.

Chenari Block.

This block was started in 1955 There are 155 villages and 20 Gram Panchayats in this block The total area of this block is 60,258 77 acres The total population according to 1961 census is 41,656 with 6,601 households

This block has sunk about 32 tube-wells for irrigation purposes and 85 drinking wells

There are a State dispensary at the block headquarters and three health sub-centres in different villages There is also a class I Veterinary dispensary at the block headquarters

There are 13 lower primary schools, three upper primary, one junior basic, one senior basic, three middle and one high schools in this block. The total number of school-going students is about 7,000

There are about 160 co-operative societies and the total number of the members is about 1,120.

Dawath Block.

This block was created on the 1st October 1962. It has an area of 40,107 27 acres comprising 117 villages out of which 15 villages are unpopulated The total revenue of the block is Rs. 2,32,023

There are 79 Co-operative Societies in the block. There is one Union Board at Koath, a village which is eight miles from Surajpura village is the headquarters of Dawath block. There are 74 schools within the block and two of them are Higher Secondary schools They are at Surajpura and Koath villages.

Most of the area is irrigated by canals, wells or other sources. The land is fertile. There are a number of important villages within the block. Some of them are Surajpura, Kharajkalan, Balihar, Barun, Dawath, Bithwa, Babhnaul and Koath. These villages are also electrified.

There are sixteen Gram Panchayats and one Union Board. Most of the Gram Panchayats have been entrusted with the collection of rent. This block has been put under Intensive Agriculture District Programme commonly known as the Package Programme.

There is one important temple at Surajpura and a church at Dolancha village There are some cottage industries like weaving, spinning and leather work. There are a number of weavers at Bithwa village. There are two *Charkha* centres for spinning at Surajpura and Jogni villages. There is one leather Co-operative Society at Agrerkhurd village.

The area being very fertile there are important markets at Surajpura, Koath and Dawath villages The bi-weekly *hats* at Surajpura, Dawath and Koath and the annual *melas* at Babhnaul and Deerhi villages have a big turnover of grains, cloth, consumers and miscellaneous goods The villages of Surajpura, Balthar, Deshgaon, Semri, Koath and Babhnaul have a population of 2,000 and above The State dispensary is located at Koath and the District Board dispensary at Surajpura There is one Irrigation Department Dak Bungalow at Koath and one District Board Dak Bungalow at Semri.

Dehri Block

This block was started in 1959 There are 102 villages and 18 *gram panchayats* in this block Its population is 1,21,186 according to 1961 census The annual revenue of this block is Rs 2,05,117. The percentage of annual rent collection was as follows –

1957-58	1958-59	1959-60	1960-61
91%	92%	90%	89%

The block headquarters is electrified and about 25 per cent villages have been electrified

Since the inception of the block five tube wells have been installed A big project, i.e., Sone Barrage has been started in this block

As regards communication, villages of this block are well connected with *pucca* and *kutcha* roads A new road project is also under investigation which will bring the dark hilly tracts and the villages to light in the matter of communication, civilisation and marketing It is the programme which will enable us to go through the jungles of Kamur Range up to the border of Madhya Pradesh. It is the scheme of construction of pitched road from Dehri passing through Rohtas and Nauhatta to Madhya Pradesh border. It will run parallel and to the river Sone on its western bank.

A small tribal population exists in village Bharkuria in this block. They are 20 in numbers comprised of four families only.

A soap making industry and bakery are also running successfully in this area. There is a sock making industry producing cheap and best socks at Dehri. Besides this, other industry like shoe making also exists.

Three *melas* are held on the occasion of *Fagun Sivaratri Mela* at Bharkuria, *Makar Sankaranti Mela* at Dehri and Champur and *Nag Panchami Mela* at Dehri.

The Grand Trunk Road passes through Dehri proper. The road is disconnected at Barun on the eastern side of the Sone river.

The following villages have a population more than 2,000 according to 1961 census.—

(*a*) Baraon	..	..	..	2,092
(*b*) Darihat	..	.	..	4,419
(*c*) Sidhauli	..	..	..	3,710
(*d*) Gangauli	..	.	.	2,858
(*e*) Bank	..			3,703
(*f*) Bhaluari	..	.	..	2,111
(*g*) Pahles	..			2,461

There are State Dispensary at Dehri and at Dalmianagar. The former provides indoor beds for six patients and the latter provides 50 beds Besides, there are three Health Sub-centres at three corners of the block and one District Board Dispensary at village Darihat. Preventive progromme like mass vaccination and inoculation against spread of cholera, small pox, etc., are also attended. Cattle wealth is also being looked after by one Class I Veterinary Dispensary located at Dehri and with four sub-centres in the villages. There are three dak bungalows, two at Dehri and one at Ayarkotha.

Institutions like *Bharat Sewak Samaj*, Co-operative Federation, Social Extension Welfare Project for women, etc., exist in this block.

Dinara Block

This Block consists of 277 villages out of which 61 are unpopulated. The total area of the Block in square miles is 148 57. The total revenue of the Block under percentage of annual collection in the last three years is given below.—

Year.			Arrear.	Current.
1958-59	..	..	63%	67%
1959-60	..	..	62%	69%
1960-61	..	..	59%	60%

This Block was notified as Pre-Extension Block, vide Government letter no 716-DC, dated 7th October, 1959 with effect from 1st October, 1959 It underwent Pre-Extension period for complete one year. During this period ground for development of the block in stage I was prepared. The Block has since been notified with effect from 1st October, 1960, vide Government letter no. C.D. II-B-76|60—8575, dated 2nd November, 1960.

As this Block had to undergo one year period of Pre-Extension during which no money was available for starting important projects and schemes no achievement could be made in the direction. The electrification of the area has not been undertaken so far, but as the information goes the Executive Engineer Electricity, Sasaram Division has plans to electrify the area soon.

As far as the rural water-supply is concerned the main source is the wells in the villages. The number of irrigational wells and drinking wells in the villages is not adequate According to the schematic programme of the block under head agriculture there is a programme to cover the entire area with 500 irrigation wells. Apart from this, a considerable number of drinking water wells are also to be given Most important source of irrigation is canal. The entire area is covered by net work of canal, the most important of which are, Buxar main canal and Chausa branch canal. Besides these, there are a number of distributaries, important of which are Santh distributary, Bhanas distributary, Bhanpur distributary, Andaur distributary and Kochas distributary. A considerable area, i.e., about 50 per cent land is under the command of these canals. This has been the primary consideration including this block under Package programme

As regards construction of pucca roads the main road which runs from east to west, i e, from Bikramganj to Mohania and which passes through this Block is already under construction. From Bikramganj to Dinara 13 miles have been made metalled by P W. D. No other construction of pucca road has been taken.

There are 26 Panchayats in the Block. Election has been completed The Panchayats are working quite well and have so far shown better co-operation in achievement of development programme Their response to various item of block programme is enthusiastic and quite praiseworthy, but the most disappointing feature as regards the working of Panchayats in the area is the presence of a separatist groupism among the different classes and communities. This considerably mars the work.

The most important item of the block programmes is considerable emphasis on improving the agriculture of the community. In this respect this block is very fortunate as programme of Intensive

Agriculture has been started in this block. The objectives of this scheme are not merely the same objectives of the Community Development Blocks of demonstrating how production can be improved, educating the cultivators and supplying materials but on the other hand the idea is that every thing that an individual farmer requires for increasing agricultural production will be given to him after an individual study of his land

This programme provides for adequate and timely supplies of production requisites such as seeds, fertilisers, pesticides, etc., through the co-operatives.

(ii) Adequate and timely supply of credit to enable the farmers to purchase the full supplies available This is based on the production plans formulated for the participating farmers.

This scheme has been implemented in this block since last *Rabi* season. In the first instance 55 villages were selected under this scheme. The villagers have shown unexpected enthusiasm and their faith and enthusiasm in the programme has been amply justified by the brilliant progress achieved during *Rabi* season. The fields have given unexpected yield varying from 18 to 20 mds. per acre in case of wheat and barley in comparison to traditional farmer producing 3 to 4 mds per acre This has further intensified the faith in the programme and farmers are coming with renewed vigour to join the programme during the coming *kharif* season

As has been said above the main aim of the programme is to improve the economic condition of the individual farmers by increasing his yield The actual working has shown that setting apart all the expenditures incurred in doing cultivation through this method individual farmer is deriving a net profit of Rs 100 to Rs. 125 per acre.

The area is not specially noted for existence of important historical temples and mosques coming from time immemorial but there is one mosque, namely "*Chand Shahid*" at Dinara which is reported to have been coming since the time of Sher Shah There is one temple at Bhaluni in which the deity of "Dakshini Bhawani" is enshrined This temple is also quite old

The prospect of different cottage industries is also not very bad in this area. From the Block survey report it has come to light that 240 persons are engaged in doing carpentry works, 364 persons are adopting blacksmithy as their profession 245 persons are doing leather job. Similarly in knitting, basket making, spinning, pottery, blanket making, 154, 33, 121, 270, 865 and 31 persons respectively are engaged.

As regards important hats and *Melas*, Bhaluni *mela* and Natwar Bazar are worth mentioning. Bhaluni *mela* is held annually at the time of "Ram Navmi". This is one of the important *melas* in

Shahabad district. As regards Natwar Bazar it can be called the main trade centre of Dinara P.-S. It is held twice in a week. It is a great grain centre where farmers bring their extra produce in search of market. There are considerable number of *goladar* shares who store the different commodities of the farmers and advance their prices.

The area is extremely backward in respect of good communication as a matter of fact this is the greatest handicap which hampers the full development of the area There is only one good metalled road from Natwar to Dinara which is in the process of *pucca*. It begins from Natwar in the eastern side and ends at Natwar at a distance of 18 miles. Up till now this road has been constructed *pucca* up to Dinara only, i e , a distance of seven miles only. Major number of villages are not connected with approach roads The two villages, Bhanpur and Karhansi are with a population of 2,000 and above

There is one State Dispensary at Dinara. There is one District Board Dispensary at Raghunathpur. Three health sub-centres of the Block are proposed to be opened at Gang Bharseara, Chitaon and Natwar. There is one canal Dak Bungalow each at Gunlej, Jamiorh and Rampur.

Dumraon Block

This block was started on 1st April, 1955 and was upgraded as a Community Development Block on 1st April, 1961. The total area of the block is 92 25 square miles There are 128 villages and 22 Gram Panchayats in this block This block also covers the Dumraon town

The block has constructed a number of drinking wells and has put up some hand pumps A branch of Sone canal passes through the block area It is the main source of irrigation.

The block was brought under Intensive Agricultural District Programme in 1960 The output of wheat, gram, potato, sugarcane and paddy has gone up under this programme.

There is an important Biharyji temple in the Dumraon town. There is an ancient village named Bhojpur *Jadid* in this block. This village has been named after the Maharaj Bhoj of Bhojpur. It is said that it was fairly a large village during the life time of the Maharaj Bhoj The ruins of the *garh* is said to be the ancient *garh* of Ujjain Rajput

The main cottage industries in this block are carpentry, shoe-making, blacksmithy, cloth weaving and pottery. Improved tools have been supplied to the artisans of the block.

Hat is held at Dumraon and *mela* is held at Bhojpur and Koransarai villages.

So far as communication is concerned, Arrah-Buxar and Dumraon-Nasriganj roads pass through the block headquarters. The villages having more than two thousand population are Mathila, Kasian, Attaon and Ariaon.

Durgauti Block

This block with 108 villages was opened on 1st April, 1960 It has an area of 41,425 acres. There are 17 Gram Panchayats. The total population according to 1961 Census is 47,245 with 7,318 households.

This block has sunk 13 irrigational wells and 50 drinking wells. The Grand Trunk Road passes through the block.

A big *mela* is held at village Kulharia on the eve of *Ramnavami*.

There is a State Dispensary in this block Besides there are three health sub-centres There is a Public Works Department Bungalow at Durgauti.

There is a Veterinary Dispensary at the block headquarters. There are 27 lower primary schools, 16 upper primary, one basic school, two middle and three high schools in this block. This block has opened 14 libraries in big villages

There are 33 Co-operative Societies in this block.

Itarhi Block.

This block was opened in 1960 Its area is 88 square miles It has 160 villages and 14 Gram Panchayats Its total population according to 1961 Census was 60,544 with 5,279 households

This block has constructed 59 irrigational wells and 54 drinking wells Besides these it has also sunk irrigational tube-wells.

There are 40 lower primary, 13 upper primary, one senior basic, ten middle and two high schools in this block The total number of school-going boys is about 4,000.

There are a State Dispensary and class I Veterinary Dispensary at the block headquarters

Jagdishpur Block.

This block was established in 1962 Its total area is 70,615.45 acres. There are 186 villages and 18 Gram Panchayats in the block. The total population according to 1961 Census is 1,04,443, i.e., 51,815 males and 52,628 females.

The total demand of revenue was Rs. 6,57,655.24 and the collection was 48 per cent Jagdishpur, the block headquarters is electrified. This town has an importance in Shahabad district.

This block has constructed 34 drinking wells and 47 irrigational wells It has also sunk tube-wells for irrigational purposes

So far communication is concerned, this block is well connected with roads From Jagdishpur buses ply to Piro-Behia, Arrah, etc.

The cottage industries, namely, pottery, cart wheel manufacturing, etc, are in the block About 80 Co-operative Societies are functioning

There are 71 lower primary, 20 upper primary, one senior basic, ten high schools, and six miscellaneous schools. The total number of school going students is about 7,000.

Jagdishpur, the block headquarters is the birth place of Babu Kunwar Singh He was the leader of the Mutiny of 1857.

Kargahar Block.

There are 385 villages in this block with an area of 1,18,226 56 acres The total demand of the block is Rs. 10,40,601 57 and the percentage of collection during the last three years is 534, 426 and 91 per cent respectively.

The block was started in the month of October 1956 and was raised to C. D Stage II from 1961.

26 irrigation wells and 114 drinking water wells have been constructed in the different villages of the block Nine villages have been electrified so far The block headquarters is situated on Sasaram Chousa road at a distance of 14 miles from Sasaram. Two *pucca* roads pass through the block (*i*) the Sasaram-Chousa Road of which 18 miles lie in the block area and (*ii*) Bikramganj-Mohania Road of which about 11 miles have in the block area.

There are 29 Gram Panchayats in the block. It is reported by the B D O that many of the *Mukhiyas* have not been able to keep themselves aloof from controversial village politics

There is no tribal population in the block

The use of improved implements manures and fertilisers have improved the agriculture production.

There is no important temple or mosque Village Sahuta is the birth place of Swami Bhawani Dayal Sanyasi who took active part in the independence movement

There is some scope of the development of leather, handloom and blanket-weaving in some of the villages.

There is no *hat* or trade centre. Kargahar and Kochus mentioned, are the two market places. At village Digita in the month of *Phalgoon* and at Kargahar in the months of *Phalgoon* and *Baisakh melas* are held

There are two *pucca* P W D roads which run through the block area. The Sasaram-Chousa road runs for about 15 miles and Bikramganj to Mohania road about nine miles. Due to absence of good communication more than 80 per cent of the villages of this block remain disconnected throughout the rainy season. Two roads, one from Kharadih station to Kudra station and the other from Nokha to Kargahar are constructed This would solve a lot of the difficulties found by the villagers.

Kargahar and Kochus are the two villages with more than two thousand population.

There is a State Dispensary at Kargahar and a District Board Dispensary at Kochus Besides three health sub-centres run at village Sekh Baahuarea, Barhri and Torni and two veterinary dispensaries at Kochus

One District Board Dak Bungalow at Kochus and five Irrigation Bungalows at Kudiari, Pasathua, Phully, Barhari and Sirisian are located inside the block

Karakat Bloch

This block with 128 villages was opened in 1961. It has an area of 118 36 square miles. The population of the block is 89,254 according to the Census of 1961. The block headquarters is located at Bikramganj (May, 1964). There are 21 Gram Panchayats in the block.

The table below will show the demand and collection of the revenue from 1961-62 to 1963-64·—

Year.	Demand	Percentage of collection.
	Rs	
1961-62 .	3,18,595 00	70
1962-63 ..	4,18,546 84	99
1963-64 ..	2,46,555 19	97

There is a famous temple at Deomarkande village. A *mela* is held in the month of June in Belarhia village There is also an old temple at this village.

The cottage industries of the block are blanket weaving, carpentry and blacksmithy

Hats are held at villages Karakat, Sakla and Chougain within this block As regards communications, the Bikramganj-Nasriganj metalled road passes through the Block area. The Akbarpur-Koilwar unmetalled road also passes through the eastern boundary of the block area. There is also a *kachcha* road from Nonar to Nasariganj which passes through the Kao (or Vasumari) river near Karath

The District Board Dispensaries are at Gorari and Ghamardihri villages Besides there are two canal Dak Bungalows at Danwar and at Jaishri

Koilwar Block.

This block with 73 villages came into existence in 1956. The block has an area of 41,410 64 acres. There are 19 *gram panchayats.*

The population of the block according to 1961 Census is 71,326 with 11,359 households

This block has sunk 40 drinking wells and 25 irrigational tube-wells The cottage industries are blacksmithy, poultry and leather works

There are 43 lower primary schools, 21 upper primary schools, five middle and 4 high schools in this block There are 31 libraries.

There is one T B Sanatorium at Koilwar. Besides there is a State Dispensary at the block headquarters

There are several co operative societies in this block.

Kudra Block.

This block was started on 2nd October, 1952 and was named Bhabua Mohania Sasaram Community Development Project. Only five *halkas* of this *Anchal* were included in the aforesaid project. This stage lasted up to the 30th June 1956 and thereafter it was converted into National Extension Service Block. In 1959 it was re named as Community Development Stage II Block.

The area of the block is 80 73 square miles with 160 villages and 13 Gram Panchayats According to 1961 Census its total population is 49 512.

The following table will show the demand and collection of the revenue from 1959-60 to 1960-61.—

Year.	Demand	Collection	Percentage.
	Rs.	Rs.	
1959-60	1,88,266.92	1,23,022.39	65.43
1960-61	4,18,770 22	1,44,320.54	34.49

About 10 villages are electrified. The Block has sunk 30 wells for drinking and one medium irrigation scheme at Jagdishpur has been completed at an estimated cost of Rs 32,000.00 for irrigation purposes.

The main produce of this block area are paddy, gram, wheat, barley, etc The important cottage industries are blanket weaving and leather works. Sheep rearing and blanket weaving have some prospects in this area

There is an important market at Kudra It is a retail market centre. Fairs are held at Kudra and Basawan villages at the time of *Basant Panchami.*

So far as communication is concerned, the Grand Trunk Road passes through the block Besides there is also Kudra-Parsuthua (14 miles) jeepable road in this block.

There are two Government dispensaries, one at Kudra and the other at Basawan Within this block there are two Dak Bungalows at Kudra and Basawan. There is a Veterinary Dispensary at Kudra

The villages having population more than two thousand are Jahanabad and Fakrabad.

There are 23 lower primary schools, 10 upper primary, two junior basic, two middle and one high schools. The total number of libraries is 54

Mohania Block

The area of the Block is 70,808 27 acres comprising of 110 63 square miles There are 209 villages in the Block which consist of 149 populated villages and 60 non populated ones The percentage of annual collection is as below —

Year	Percentage of collection Arrear.	Current
1957-58	66	61
1958-59	76½	76
1959-60	82.43	80

This block is a 1956-57 April Series Block. The Block has been placed under the charge of a B.D O. who is in charge of both revenue and development work.

Rural Electrification work has been taken up by the Electric Supply Department The electric poles pass by the G T. Road side which passes through this block and many villages on the roadside have been electrified. Many boring schemes for supply of irrigation water to fields have been taken up. Further a canal has

also been constructed by the canal department. Village channels have also been constructed by the Block to promote irrigation facilities Further many irrigation and drinking water wells have also been constructed Improvements to village *katcha* roads have also been effected to

Twenty Gram Panchayats are at present functioning in the area. The *Mukhiyas* also help in the execution of development works programme in their areas.

The percentage of population of the tribals in this Block is almost negligible They get all the privileges which the scheduled castes and harijans are getting.

There has been a remarkable improvement in agriculture due to the construction of a canal in the area and provision of other irrigational facilities People are taking some interest in Japanese method of paddy cultivation and have begun using the modern agricultural implements. Further an Intensive Agricultural Package Programme has also been taken up in this area

Nearly all the inhabited villages of the area have some sort of temples where Hindus worship and many villages in the area have also got mosques where Mohammadans perform their prayers There is no Church in the area There is no historical site also.

There are two regulated village markets, i e, Stuartganj and Darwan markets They also perform as *Mandis* of the area. There is one cattle *mela* known as Akorhi Mela which is held four times in a year Further a few religious fairs are also held in the villages of this block

The Grand Trunk Road passes through this block There is only one dispensary in the area and there are three Health Mobile Centres functioning in the area There is one Dak Bungalow at Mohania.

Nasriganj Block

This block was started on the 1st of April, 1961 It covers an area of 46,095 72 acres and contained 85 villages of which Nasriganj, Amiawar, Rajpur, Baligaon and Pokharaha Jamalpur have a population of over 2 000 people There are 20 *gram panchayats* in this block The total revenue of the block is rupees 2,31,276 00. The headquarters is at Nasriganj which is urban in character and has a Union Committee The town as well as villages Mangraon, Atimi, Rajpur and Amujawar in this block are electrified. Electricity is mostly used for domestic purposes

Rural water-supply for drinking purposes is from wells constructed by the public as well as Government.

The area is well irrigated, irrigation being provided by canals. The main Arrah canal with a large number of its distributaries passes through this block and a canal subdivision is located at Nasriganj. There is also another canal subdivision, Danwar canal subdivision, situated in the vicinity of this block. Thus there is no dearth of water for irrigation purposes

The land is very fertile and produces large quantity of paddy besides other agricultural commodities. The method followed by the farmers is still primitive though the block has been making efforts to introduce modern methods. The block has been taken under Intensive Agricultural District Programme (Package Programme) from 1st April, 1961 People are being trained in the use of different kinds of fertilizers, improved agricultural implements, better seeds, etc

There are two *pucca* roads which connect Nasriganj with Dehri in the south and Bikramganj on north-west corner Besides these there are two main District Board roads, viz., Koilwar-Rohtas road and Nasriganj-Nokha road But there are *katcha* roads and in rainy season they become impassable due to breaches in them. The nearest railway station is Bikramganj of the Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway

The block has two dispensaries one at Nasriganj and the other at Bhim Karup It has three inspection bungalows, viz., (*i*) Nasriganj Canal Inspection Bungalow (*ii*) Pakari Irrigation Inspection Bungalow and (*iii*) Nasriganj District Board Inspection Bungalow

The block is well provided with educational institutions There are two training *cum*-production centres: one for wool weaving and the other for carpet weaving, functioning under the auspices of Block Development of the Industries Department There is also one local charitable educational institution named Faizul Ghorba at Nasriganj which provides free board and lodging facilities to the poor Muslim students

Nasriganj has got a large sheep population and blankets are made. At Nasriganj proper there is one *Kambal Ashram* which was primarily started as a wool weaver co-operative society but it is now in its doldrums The industry is being now carried out on a household scale The second cottage industry worth mentioning is medium quality *sabai* rope making Besides these oil *ghani*, pounding of rice, etc., are being carried out in the block under the All-India Khadi and Village Industries Board.

A big *mela* called *Sankranti mela* is held at Hariharganj, a part of Nasriganj town on the bank of the river Sone

One interesting feature of this area specially of Nasriganj is that during the rainy season when the river Sone comes in spate, people have been found rushing, diving and floating in the river

with the help of *thumri* (a small closed hollow overturned pot) in the fast current of the river for the purpose of salvaging washed out trees and jungle wood from the river The wood so salvaged serve the people as fuel for at least nine months, besides bringing some hard cash to the people who sell it.

Nauhatta Block †

The special Multi-purpose Tribal Project is situated in the extreme south west corner of the Shahabad district and adjoins the Palamau district in Bihar and the Mirzapur district in Uttar Pradesh It extends out a total area of 151 square miles comprising partly of the Kaimur plateau and partly the plains on the northern bank of the river Sone There are 68 villages in this project, having a total population of 24,120 according to the census of 1951

The following is the figure of demand and collection on account of rent, cess and miscellaneous dues during the past three years:—

Year	Demand	Collection.	Percentage of collection.
	Rs	Rs	
1957-58	63,241 74	60,763 41	96.5
1958 59	67,227 90	68,364 23*	98.50
1959-60	72,122 25	73,440 89*	97.7

*Advance collection are also included in the figures.

Short history of the Project—This project was first started on 26th January 1957 as a N. E S Block with its temporary head-quarters at Bauhia and was subsequently converted from April, 1957 into a Special Multi purpose Tribal Project with a view to intensifying the development activities amongst the tribal and scheduled castes population in the area The main occupation of the people in this area continues to be agriculture but the opening of lime-stone quarries has ventilated a source for supplementing the income of the agriculturists and for whole time employment to the unemployed

On account of its situation and for want of communication facilities the people of this area had been generally left to themselves and in the beginning it was really an up hill task to make them understand the development activities and to adopt them.

Important projects and their usefulness—At the time when the project was started, the pressing need of the area, particularly those inhabited by the tribals, was that of adequate and safe drinking water This has now been partially solved by constructing a number of wells in some of the villages.

† There is an appraisal report separately This report was received from the Project Executive Officer

There existed two dispensaries in this project run by the Sone Valley Portland Cement Company but they only catered for the employees of the company Now one State Dispensary has been started at the project headquarters at Nauhatta and three Health Sub-centres have been opened at different places in the area. In addition to these there is also one Ayurvedic dispensary which serves exclusively the tribal portion of the project. For the treatment of animals there existed absolutely no facility but now one Class I Veterinary Centre and three Field Veterinary Centres have been started.

The only source of irrigation that existed from before was the *Ahars* but these only helped in channelling the rain water and were mainly useful for *Aghani* paddy. Now a large number of irrigation wells have been dug. It is hoped that *Rabi* cultivation will be intensified. The area being rocky, most of the wells dry up during the summer and open boring has also been provided.

As already mentioned there is practically no road communication in the area. The Railway track of the Rohtas Industries, Ltd., which starts from Dehri, has penetrated into this area and runs up to Chutia covering a distance of nearly 16 miles of this project. Two passenger trains have been provided by the R. I. Ltd., and they are a boon to the people of this area

There is only one road which runs through this project This is a District Board Road which starting from Dehri terminates at the border of Mirzapur district The condition of this road in the project area is very bad and is hardly used even by pedestrians during the rainy season. A good number of culverts have already been constructed on this road. A black-topped *pucca* road up to the Block headquarters is a possibility In the tribal area, three hill pathways have already been completed.

On the Education side also the area was quite backward. There existed only one High School, one Middle School and 26 primary schools when the project started in this area Now one more high school has been started at Nauhatta Four more middle schools and four primary schools have also been started The condition of all the existing schools was very bad and many of them had no buildings of their own. Construction of 20 school buildings had been taken up out of which five have already been completed and the rest are under construction

Forty Co-operative Societies have been organised out of which there are 15 Multi-purpose Societies.

Gram Panchayats.—So far the Panchayats have not been so active in development activities as is desired of them They have taken up execution of schemes but the progress has not been up to the

expectation. This is partly due to lack of enthusiasm among the general public in making local contributions and partly due to party factions.

Tribes.—The tribal population mainly consists of Dhangars (Uraon) and is confined to hill area in the Kaimoor plateau. Their population according to the 1957 Census is 3,880 which works at 16 per cent of the total population

Among the important measures taken for their uplift mention may be made of provision for drinking water supply and establishment of an Ayurvedic Dispensary.

Some grain *golas* have been established which have been catering to the needs of the local population. One residential school has also been started in which nearly 25 students are reading The entire cost of their boarding and lodging as well as all the educational expenses are being met by Government Construction of two Community Halls commonly known as *Dhum Kuria* has already been completed Three hill pathways have also been constructed in the area

As there are lime stone quarries located in this area, there has been no emigration of the local population

Important Places.

There is no important temple, mosque or church in this area At village Bandu, however, there is a place of Lord Shiva which is situated in the middle of river Sone. Many ancient kings visited this place and their names find inscribed at this place A *mela* is held at this place in the month of *Fagun* every year which lasts for ten days Nauhatta has an ancient image

There is only one weekly *hat* in this project which is held in village Nauhatta

There is no Dak Bungalow owned either by Government or District Board, but the Sone Valley Portland Cement Company is maintaining one Bungalow for the visitors known as K-6 and another guest house at Baulia which is their quarry headquarters

The following villages have a population of two thousand and above —(1) Duranagar, and (2) Nauhatta Parcha.

Since the opening of the project 12 libraries, 10 recreation centres and 12 youth clubs have been organised

Nawanagar Block

This block was opened on 1st April 1962 and covers 110 inhabited and 12 uninhabited villages with a total area of 48,172.30 acres. According to 1961 Census the total population of the block is 77,793 with 9,820 occupied residential houses The total revenue of the block is rupees 2,00,092 96 paise.

There are 20 *gram panchayats* in the block, 16 of which have taken charge of rent collection work.

Since the inception of the block nine wells for drinking purposes have been constructed and 23 hand pumps have been installed.. Villages Nawanagar, Athar, Karath, Alimi, Rupsagar, Rampur, Basdeva and Belaon have been electrified.

The block is mainly agricultural and has a number of canals. Intensive Agricultural District Programme (commonly known as the Package Programme) has been taken up in this block and the cultivators are taking some interest in it. Fertilizers are sold through co-operative societies. There are 61 Multi-purpose Co-operative Societies with 2,218 members and a share capital of rupees 38,428.

The only *pucca* road which passes through this block is the one running from Dumraon to Nasriganj The other roads are District Board *kutcha* roads and canal roads. There are two Dak Bungalows maintained by the Irrigation Department, the one is at. Sikraul and the other at Sidhipur.

There are a State Dispensary and an Irrigation Subdivisional Office at village Sikraul Health sub-centres at villages Maina, Karsan and Kanjia have been opened by the block There are a Class I Veterinary Dispensary and an Artificial Insemination Centre at Nawanagar. Two animal husbandry sub-centres have been opened, one at Katikuar and the other at Sonbarsa.

Nokha Block.

This block with 117 villages was opened in October, 1962 It has an area of 79 square miles There are 17 Gram Panchayats. The population of the block is 77,870 with 11,805 households according to 1961 Census Ten villages are electrified.

The following table will show the demand and collection of revenue from 1958-59 to 1962-63:—

Year		Demand (in rupees).	Collection (in rupees).
1958-59	..	2,70,726.05	2,18,988 11
1959-60	.	2,49,272.55	2,18,587 11
1960-61	.	3,01,202.05	2,55,848.69
1961-62	..	3,29,987.25	2,12,299.13
1962-63	..	4,11,751 00	3,77,799.58

The block authorities have repaired 21 *ahars* and have sunk 23 drinking wells Sixteen *rahats* for irrigation purposes have been distributed.

The block headquarters Nokha, on Arrah-Sasaram road has good transport facilities by A.-S. Light Railway, passenger buses, trucks, *Ekkas* carts, rickshaws, etc.

The *garh* of Nokha was a seat of a kingship and this *garh* is a protected monument under the management of Archaeological Department.

The Intensive Agricultural District Programme has been introduced since 1961 in this block.

There are five rice mills, a big market, a State Dispensary, a Veterinary Dispensary, a post office, and a Dak Bungalow at the block headquarters.

There are 66 lower primary, 22 upper primary, 14 middle and seven other miscellaneous schools in this block.

There are 81 co-operative societies.

Piro Block.

This block was opened in 1961. The total population according to 1961 is 1,03,236. There are 112 villages in the block out of which 103 villages are unpopulated. The area is 52,315.25 acres distributed in 11 *halkas*.

There are only six villages, namely, Piro, Hasuadih, Jitaura, Rajeau, Shejani and Jamuaon (May, 1964).

The block has constructed wells, *ahars*, *pynes*, etc., for irrigation purposes. It has also sunk hand-pumps for drinking purposes.

So far as communication is concerned this village is well connected with rail and road. The Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway passes through the block headquarters.

Package Programme has been introduced in the block area. It has brought a movement among the cultivators to adopt the improved method of cultivation and there is considerable increase in yield as against the old methods of cultivation. There is a temple known as Bahari Mahadeo where fairs are held in the months of *Phalgun* and *Baisakh*. There is a church at Piro which is run by the American Catholic Mission.

So far as cottage industry is concerned, there is a Carpentry Training *cum* Production Centre in the block. Besides there is also a Weavers' Training Centre at Hasanbazar. There are 13 Industrial Co-operative Societies in this block.

Hats are held at Piro, Hasanbazar, Jitaura and Agion and *melas* are held at Bahari Mahadeo and Katar. Two villages, namely, Hasanbazar and Piro are the main trading centres in this block.

The villages having population more than two thousand are Tar, Jitaura, Lahthan, Chhawarahi, Jangal mahal, Kataria, Katar, Narainpur, Jamuaon, Agiaon and Nonar

There is a State Dispensary at Piro. There are two Dak Bungalows located at Lahthan and Piro

There are six high schools in the block

Rajpur Block

(*a*) Area of the Block—184 50 square miles

(*b*) No of villages—283 (104 Bechiragi)

(*c*) Total Revenue of the Anchal—Rs 8,49,469 57

(*d*) Percentage of collection in the last three years —

1958-59	1959-60	1960-61
75	71½	73 50

Forty drinking wells have been taken up under L W P scheme out of which twenty have been completed Two *hat* sheds and two *kutchery* buildings are under execution One irrigational tank has been taken up. Besides this construction of one school building and one road has also been taken up on the basis of 50 per cent Government subsidy Two Harijan colonies are under execution

Some villages namely, Rajpur, Rauni, Manoharpur, Jarnouli and Jalahari have been covered under the expansion scheme of the Electricity Board of the Government of Bihar

This block is very poor in the matter of communication as there are only two *pucca* roads (C W. P.) within the Anchal—

(1) Chausa Sasaram road, and (2) Chausa-Mohania road—which are under construction. There are only three *Kutcha* District Board roads which cover some portion of the Anchal. These *katcha* roads remain practically unaccessible during the rains

There are twenty-four Gram Panchayats in the Anchal But people in general are not very enthusiastic or hopeful in their prospects and proper functions due to party and group politics in the villages Casteism has also crept in the Panchayats Some Gram Panchayats are collecting rent in the Anchal

There is no tribal population in the Anchal

A remarkable improvement in the agricultural economy of the villagers is expected to be achieved within next few years as this pre-extension block has been taken up in the new Intensive Development District Programme popularly known as Package Programme since 1st April, 1961

There is no important temple, mosque and church in this Anchal.

There are two *bazars* in the Anchal, namely, Manoharpur and Dhansori There were held a considerable, number of small-sized *melas* in the Anchal for paddy procuring.

There is only one Inspection Bungalow of Irrigation Department located at Manoharpur There are two District Board managed dispensaries, one at Manikpur and another at Sarya. There is only one Government Hospital at Manoharpur. The needs of the entire Anchal are not fulfilled by these hospital and dispensaries.

A static dispensary at Rajpur and one I B at Rajpur are the pressing needs for the Anchal There are six villages which have population of about 2,000 persons, namely, Sarya, Dehri, Rajpur, Rampur, Kheri and Dhansole There is a net work of canal in the Anchal and the service roads of canal are made *pucca* open to all kinds of traffic

There is no place in the Anchal for historical and tourists interest

Ramgarh Block

This block was established in 1958 as pre-extension block and functioning as Community Development Stage I since 1st April, 1962 The area of the block is 88 13 square miles There are 232 villages out of which 57 villages are depopulated in this block There are 24 statutory Gram Panchayats Ramgarh is the headquarters of the block

The annual percentage of revenue collection of the block in the years 1960-61, 1961-62 and 1962-63 are 71 per cent, 49 per cent and cent per cent respectively

This block has constructed some irrigational wells, drinking wells and has put up some hand pumps The main cottage industries of the block are blacksmithy, pottery, etc

A cattle fair is held at Nuaon village and a *mela* is held at village Mahnar on the occasion of *Ram Navami* in the month of *Chaitra* About 5,000 to 10,000 villagers attend this *mela*.

There is a State dispensary at Ramgarh and three health subcentres in different villages There are high schools at Nuaon and Deohalia and one higher secondary school at Ramgarh

A metalled Ramgarh Bhabua road passes through the Block headquarters

Rohtas Block

The block was started from 2nd November, 1959 although actually it has been functioning from 1st November, 1957. There are 50 villages with an area of 85,958 acres The total revenue of

the block is near about Rs 80,000 There are a number of gram panchayats in the block. The block has a small percentage of tribals. Special organisations like residential schools, grain-*golas*, drinking wells, etc., have been introduced for the tribal population There are a few social centres for encouraging adult education

Attempt is being made to improve the agricultural economy of the block The soil conditions and the poor economic incidence of the farmers stand on the way. The Training-*cum*-Production Centres that had been started at Ramdihra, Tumia and Akbarpur villages have been closed down. The Training-*cum*-Production Centres were not able to do much in encouraging the cottage industries of carpentry, smithy and bee-keeping There is scope of development of rope industry at Saraiya, powerloom industry at Ramdihra and for the starting of one cold storage at Saraiya.

There are a few important temples in this block The temples at Rohtas Fort have been covered elsewhere There are also very old temples at Sametula, Majhigawa, Banjari, Rasulpur, Saraiya and Kespa villages. There are no important *hats*, *melas* or markets but some small markets are held at some of these villages. The Kalyanpur Cement Factory at Banjari is an important industrial concern in this area This has been covered elsewhere

Excepting the Dehri-Rohtas road the other roads are difficult for use in the rainy season There is one District Board dispensary at Akbarpur and three Public Health Sub-centres at Karma, Kamian Sang and Rohtas Fort There are three Dak Bungalows at Rohtas Fort, Bakrain and at Saraiya

A large portion of this block is comprised of hills which are a part of Kaimur plateau which is rich in limestone and pyrites Some other minerals are also available There are thick forests in which bamboos and other valuable timber are found and are being exploited There is excellent wild game in the forest areas Rohtas and Rohtasgarh are beauty spots

Sahar Block

The total area of the Sahar Block is 63,348 00 acres This block consists of 112 villages The total revenue of this block is Rs 2,24 482 49 The percentage of the collection for the last few years comes to 72 per cent to 89 per cent

This block was notified as Circle Office, Sahar on 1st January 1956 and it was notified as C D Block Stage I from 1st April, 1961 with its headquarters at village and police station Sahar which is on the bank of the river Sone

Electrification was introduced in this block in 1960 A number of drinking wells and tube-wells have been constructed for rural water-supply This block is under the canal command area and almost all the culturable lands are irrigated by the canal. One

historical *Ahar* known as Ekwari George Pyne Line has been converted into Maranpore Canal sub-distributary line. This newly converted canal distributary is of one mile and will irrigate about 10,000 00 acres and make them culturable. The Garahani-Sahar *Katcha* District Board Road has been taken over by the Central P W D

There are 23 Gram Panchayats in this block. The rent collection work has been entrusted to the Gram Panchayats.

The total population of this block, according to the census of 1961 is 95,676, out of which about 30 per cent are Scheduled Castes There are no Scheduled Tribes in this block

This block has also been selected for Intensive Agricultural District Programme On account of the introduction of the Intensive Agricultural District Programme the agricultural economic conditions are expected to improve

There is no important temple, mosque and church in this block

Previously Sahar, the headquarters of this block, was specially renowned for manufacturing paper. There are still some dilapidated buildings where paper used to be made under indigenous method The main cottage industry of this block is rope twisting. Plenty of *Jhalas* plant is found on Sone bed Rope is made out of *Jhalas.*

There is one important *Mela* known as Dharampore Kharaon Cattle *Mela* which is held on each Friday from June to October each year on the bank of the river Sone Villagers from other districts also come to this *mela*

There is one village namely Dhanchhuan in this block which is not connected even with old Sahar-Garahani District Board Road, though this village has a total population of more than 2,000 and there are middle and high schools There is a necessity to connect this village with Sahar District Board Road

Sandesh Block.

This block was opened in 1960 It comprises of 89 villages Its area is 46,127 acres Its total population according to the census of 1961 is 65,746 with 10 875 households.

This block has constructed about 75 drinking wells and about 10 tube wells for irrigational purposes

There is a State Dispensary at the block headquarters and three Health Sub-centres

There are 30 lower primary, 18 upper primary, 17 senior basic, six middle and five high schools in this block. The total number of school-going boys and girls is 93,120

The cottage industries namely carpentry and pottery are in this block.

Sasaram Block.

This block was opened in 1956. Its area is 147.9 square miles with 223 villages and 26 Gram Panchayats. The total population according to 1961 census is 87,535 out of which 5 000 are tribals.

The following table will show the demand and collection of revenue from 1958-59 to 1960-61 –

Year.	Demand.			Collection.			Percentage.
	Arrear.	Current	Total	Arrear	Current.	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs	Rs	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	
1958-59	86,680 44	1,78,339 52	2,65,019 96	84,765 99	1,57,250 52	2,42,016 56	98
1959 60	96,466 17	1,92,787 91	2,83,254 03	78,033 56	1,61,039 47	2,39,073 03	84
1960 61	1,24,619 33	2,00,955 66	3,25,574 99	1,02,577 97	1,56,856 10	2,59,434 07	79

A number of *kutcha* roads has been constructed by the block. One *pucca* road was also constructed from Sasaram to Darigaon.

For irrigation purpose this block has sunk about 30 tube-wells and 270 surface wells. Many *ahars* have been repaired About 107 drinking wells have been sunk

About 10 villages of this block have been electrified (1963). The villagers of this block have now become quite accustomed to improve agricultural practices The demand for chemical fertilisers has enormously increased. Better seeds are in use and there is a distinct improvement in the cultivation of paddy and sugarcane. It is reported that only a few years before about 80 per cent of the cultivable lands were single cropped but now about 75 per cent of the cultivable lands have become double cropped land There are more green-belts of vegetables The increasing demand due to industrialisation has led to increase vegetable cultivation. There are more fruit trees now in this area.

There is a distinct shift of the agricultural population to industry now. The heavy industrialisation in Rohtas Dalmianagar and in the Kaimur hills naturally attracts the surplus agricultural population.

The area has a number of beauty and historical spots There are a few waterfalls near Sasaram town. The waterfalls are visited by many people in various seasons. During the rainy season the rush of the people to these falls is great Some of these falls are as *Dhuan Kund, Majhar Kund* and *Sita Kund*. There are a number of historical monuments in this block. Sher Shah's tomb in Sasaram town is the most important of them It is situated in the middle of a big tank. There is also a tomb of Hasan Khan Sur, father of Sher Shah situated in the heart of Sasaram town.

In Sasaram there is a temple of goddess Parvati and by the side of the temple there is a cave where there are inscriptions in Pali language. There is a hill which is known as the *Chandan Shahids'* Hill. There are graves of a number of *Fakirs* on this hill. Some inscriptions in Pali language are found on this hill also.

So far as industry is concerned there are a number of stone quarries in this block. Stone chips are supplied from this place to many places. The construction of the Sone Barrage, Sone Bridge and Amjhore factory has given a larger scope for the expansion of this industry. About 5,000 persons are engaged in this industry round about Sasaram. There is a Stone-cutters' Co-operative Society. There are several lime-kilns in this block as limestones are found in plenty.

The leather workers are found scattered throughout the block. Some villages have got a concentration of leather-workers. These villages are Belarhi, Karpurwa, Mokar, Baizla, Udaipura, Narainpur, Kurhi, Jaipur, Dawanpur, Gobina and Sasaram town. At present there are three shoe makers' co-operative societies in this block.

There are three Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Societies in this block. There are about 300 members of these societies. About 50 powerlooms have been installed at village Maharajganj.

Basket making industry is concentrated at village Beda Banarasia. About forty families are engaged in this industry. They manufacture baskets with the stems of *rahar* plants. There is a good demand of such baskets in Sasaram. A basket makers' co-operative society of about 50 members has also been formed in this village. There are about 50 rice, oil and flour mills scattered all over the block. There is an assembling unit of sewing machines in Sasaram. The parts imported from the Punjab are assembled here.

There are three big *hats* in this block namely, Takia, Tilauthoo and Darigaon. Besides these big *hats*, there are a number of small *hats* also.

Three important *melas* are held in this block. Cattle *melas* are held at Darigaon and Tilauthoo. One *mela* is held at Tarachandi in the month of *Sawan*. The cattle *mela* at Darigaon is held twice a year, one in the month of *Chait*, and the other in the month of *Asvin*. Tilauthoo cattle *mela* is held in the month of *Kartik*. One small *mela* also takes place at Gorakshni in Sasaram town in the month of *Asvin* on the eve of the Durgapuja. There is a good turnover of trade and commerce both inter-district and inter-State in the *hats* and *melas* of this block.

Communication.—The block headquarter in Sasaram town is situated in between the Grand Trunk Road and Grand Chord Line of the Eastern Railway. The area of the block extends to two miles west and six miles east on the Grand Trunk Road. It also extends to five miles north on Arrah-Sasaram Road. There are two other

pucca roads in this block, one from Sasaram to Tilauthoo and the other from Sasaram to Darigaon covering a distance of 15 and 10 miles respectively Besides these *pucca* roads, there are some important *katcha* roads.

The construction of the Sone Barrage and the improvement of the Sone Canal system will materially help the produce of the villages that are in the south of this block There are two villages in this block, i.e, Tilauthoo and Dhaudarh that have a population of about two thousand persons

Besides the hospital at Sasaram there are two other State dispensaries at Tilauthoo and Darigaon There are three health sub-centres at Govina, Karwandia and Dhaudarh villages There are two veterinary hospitals at Darigaon and at Tilauthoo Besides a Public Works Department Inspection Bungalow at Sasaram, there are two Dak Bungalows at Sasaram and at Beda The last one is in a delapidated condition

There is one youth hostel constructed by the Sasaram Block at Beda on the Grand Trunk Road

The modes of conveyance are the railways, passenger buses, carrier trucks, *Ekkas*, rickshaws, cycles, bullock-carts, taxis, cars, etc. Horse riding is common

Shahpur Block

This block was opened in 1956 The population of the block according to 1961 census is 88,752 with 10,054 households. The area is 38,545 acres There are 19 *gram panchayats.*

This block has five higher secondary schools, six high schools, two basic schools and 50 primary schools There are one State Dispensary at Sahpur and three Health Sub-centres, at Bariswan, Benwalia and Ishapura. There is one class I Veterinary Dispensary at Shahpur and three field veterinary dispensaries at Karja, Benwalia and Karnamepur Besides there is an artificial insemination centre at Ramsagar This block is very rich in livestock population At Shahpur there is a centre of R. C Mission which has started a hospital, a girls' and a boys school

There are 42 co-operative societies in this block Besides there are two Weaving Co-operative Societies and five Industrial Co-operative Societies.

Sheosagar Block.

This block with 199 villages came into existence in 1956. The area of the block is 73,255 41 acres out of which 53,973.34 acres are culturable land. There are 20 Gram Panchayats. The population of the block is 56,934 with 9,333 households according to 1961

census The percentage of revenue collection from 1956-57 to 1959-60 was as follows —

Year.	Arrear.	Current.
1956-57	99%	99%
1957-58	95%	87%
1958-59	91.5%	87.5%
1959-60	98%	94%

Nineteen villages including Sheosagar where the headquarters of the block are located are electrified There are various means of irrigation, namely, canal rivers wells, motor pumps, *ahars*, etc. The cultivators use better type manure, seeds and agricultural implements The co-operative societies give credit facilities.

The Grand Trunk Road passes through the northern portion of the block from east to west dividing it into two parts, north and south There is a *pucca* road (seven miles) running from village Beda to Raipur Chore

The block has constructed 33 community centres out of which 15 are Community Centres *cum* Village Level Workers' residence.

There is an old Shiva temple situated on the eastern bank of Sheosagar tank said to have been dug during the regime of Sher Shah There are a number of old historic villages in this block, namely, Sonhar (where a copper plate *dan-patra* was discovered), Alampur Raipurchora, Nad, Khurran, Konor and Torna Very old wells, mounds, etc., are seen in these villages Raipurchora and Alampur villages have a population of more than two thousand persons Bi-weekly *hats* are held in these villages

The Grand Trunk Road passes through the northern portion of this block The Grand Chord line also passes through the block parallel to the Grand Trunk Road

Besides a State Dispensary at Sheosagar, there are three health sub-centres at villages, Torani Parasi and Raipurchora. There are one Class I Veterinary Dispensary at Sheosagar and two field veterinary dispensaries at Torni and Karoop villages

There are 17 lower primary, seven upper primary, 13 junior basic, ten senior basic, one middle school, two high schools and three miscellaneous schools in this block

Simri Block

This block was started in 1956 The area of the block is 96 square miles and consists of 145 villages and ten *halkas*. The total

revenue of the block is Rs. 2,77,858 and the percentage of collection during the last four years is given below –

Year.	Percentage.
1956-57	58
1957-58	51
1958-59	58
1959-60	60

There are one college, five high schools, 51 middle and primary schools functioning in this block At present two villages have the facilities of irrigation of tube-wells There are three health sub-centres and one State Dispensary functioning in this block.

The villages namely, Majhwari, Dullahpur, Simri, Sahiyar and Niazipur have been electrified

The important villages of the block have been provided with drinking well and hand-pumps About 57 irrigational wells have been constructed in this block

There are 21 Gram Panchayats functioning in this block

There is no temple, mosque or church of any historical importance in this block

At present there are two Training-*cum* Production Centres namely, Cloth Weaving and Leather Tanning There are six Co-operative Societies in this block.

Bi-weekly *hats* are held in villages Simri, Barka-Rajpur, Kathar, Dumri, Kazipur and Sahiyar

There is only one important cattle *mela* at Niazipur which is held during *Kartick Purnima* It is situated on the border of Ballia District of Uttar Pradesh, eight miles north of Dumraon railway station of Eastern Railway

There is only one trade centre at Simri Though the block is on the border of Ballia district of Uttar Pradesh, no such inter-State trade and commerce exists due to difficulties of communication

So far as communication is concerned the block headquarters Simri is nine miles north of the Eastern Railway and seven miles north of the Buxar-Arrah road There is a *kutcha* road from Dumraon to Niazipur (leading up to Ballia ghat in U P.) Almost all the roads connected with the villages of this block are *kutcha* and so the only means of communication is either bullock cart or *tomtom*. The roads become inaccessible during the rainy season

The villages having a population of more than 2,000 are Simri, Dullahpur, Dumri, Niazipur, Rajpur Dhakaich, Kathar, Singhanpura, Rajapore, Gangauli and Beyasi (Sheopur Diara)

There are three health sub-centres, namely, Dumri, Dullahpur and Gangauli and one State Dispensary at Simri

Tarari Block

This block was opened in 1961. There are 115 villages and 17 Gram Panchayats in this block. Its area is 49,652 acres. Its total population according to 1961 census is 77,442 with 12,452 households.

This block has constructed about 133 irrigational wells and 126 drinking wells.

There are 40 lower primary schools, 21 upper primary, 16 junior basic, one senior basic, nine middle and three high schools. The total number of school going students is 6,676.

Udwantnagar Block

This block was opened in 1961. It comprises of 77 villages and 17 Gram Panchayats having an area of 66 square miles. The average percentage of revenue collection since three years, i.e., 1961 to 1963 is about 75 per cent.

The block headquarters is electrified and electrification work has been done in about ten villages. Hand-pumps and drinking wells have been sunk in the villages.

The distributaries of the main Arrah canal irrigate the major portion of this block. Besides there are 12 State tube-wells for irrigation purposes.

The block is under Intensive Agricultural District Programme since September, 1960 and the farmers are co-operating in the scheme for increasing their agricultural production.

There is a Jain Temple in village Masarh. The Jains of Arrah attach great importance to the said temple. The legend about this is-that it was constructed 400 years ago. Besides, there is a pond in which it is said that the daughter of Banasur of Pauranik age used to take bath. It is near Karisath railway station. The area of the pond is about 52 bighas.

The main cottage industries of this block are carpentry, weaving and blacksmithy. In village Masarh a local *mela* twice in a year in the months of *Chaitra* and *Asin* is held.

There are two *pucca* roads in the block one from Arrah to Buxar covering a distance of ten miles from the block and the other from Arrah to Sasaram covering ten miles also. Besides, there is canal road which remains open for about nine months for use. One road from Akauna to Sahar has been constructed.

There is a State Dispensary at village Udwantnagar and three Health Sub-centres at Asani, Kasap and Belaur.

There is no Dak Bungalow in this block.

GLOSSARY OF NON-ENGLISH WORDS IN THE TEXT.

1. *Abwab*	..	A kind of toll, an illegal exaction.
2. *Amil or Sarkar*	..	A District Officer in Mughal times.
3. *Amin*	..	A person who does mapping and writing of records
4 *Bal Panchayat*	..	An operation to fix culturable and unculturable lands of *diara* villages and also to realise rent every year
4 (A) *Bakast land*	..	Land retained by the ex-landlords and tenure-holder being in their *khas* cultivation
5 *Chakrana*		A kind of service tenancy.
6 *Chitta*	..	A plotwise record of culturable and unculturable area of a village
7. *Chowdhary*	..	A Pargana Officer in Mughal times
8 *Chowrahi*	..	Varieties of fixed kind of rent
9 *Danabandi*	..	Varieties of fixed kind of rent
10. *Dan Patra*	..	An unregistered deed of gift for donations of land to the Bhoodan Yagna Committee according to the Bhoodan Yagna Act
11. *Diwan*	..	Provincial head directly responsible to the Emperor and his treasury.
12 Field *Bujharat*	.	A kind of quick survey by the revenue staff under the executive instructions of the Government
13 *Gairmazarua Aam* land.		Land belonging to the entire community of a village
14. *Gair Mazarua Malik* land.		Lands belonging to the landlord in a village. (Now the Bihar Government).

15. *Gujashta*	..	Holding at fixed rent.
16. *Guzashtadar* or *Sharaht moyyan* (raiyats).	..	Tenants holding land on fixed rent not liable to change
17. *Hinhayati*	..	Life-long
18. *Jagir*	..	Property whose income was assigned to local officers for maintenance.
19. *Jama*	..	Rent paid by a raiyat.
20. *Kanungo*	..	A superior Officer of the *Patwaris* for the same purpose with a larger jurisdiction.
21. *Khanapuri*	..	Writing of record-of-rights
22. *Khasa*	..	Revenue payable to ruler.
23. *Khatian*	..	Record of rights arranged according to classes of tenancies and holdings of individual raiyats.
24. *Khatiawni*	..	A tenant-wise and holding-wise record of culturable and unculturable area and propositions of rent for remission and realisation.
25. *Kistwar*	..	Mapping of individual fields and home-steads
26. *Malkana*	..	A percentage of gross income of village payable to *maliks* of a village prior to farmers.
27. *Makaddam*	..	Village Level Worker in Mughal times.
28. *Menkhat*	..	Varieties of fixed kind of rent.
29. *Menhunda*	..	Varieties of fixed kind of rent
30. *Mouza*	..	A village
31. *Mughalbandi* area	.	Direct collection area.

32. *Mukarri*	..	A tenure interest under the B. T. Act.
33. *Naib*	..	Assistant or deputy.
34 *Pargana*	..	A revenue paying unit of territory during Mughal period
35. *Partal*	..	Field checking.
36. *Patta*	..	A lease for land executed by landlord in favour of tenants.
37. *Patwari*	..	A revenue subordinate for keeping registers showing revenue accounts and incharge of rent collection.
38 *Praman Patra*	..	An unregistered deed of agricultural lease executed by the Bhoodan Yagna Committee in favour of *bhoodan* raiyats.
39. *Qabulliat*	..	A counterpart of the *patta* executed by the raiyat in favour of landlord.
40. *Sadarjama*	..	Fixed land revenue demand.
41. *Sajawal*	..	Circle Officer.
42 *Sarhad Milan*	..	Comparison of boundary of villages
43 *Zarpeshgi Rehan*	..	Usufructuary mortgage.

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BSP (Revenue) 10—Line—2,000—27-5-1966—MCM & others.

PLATES



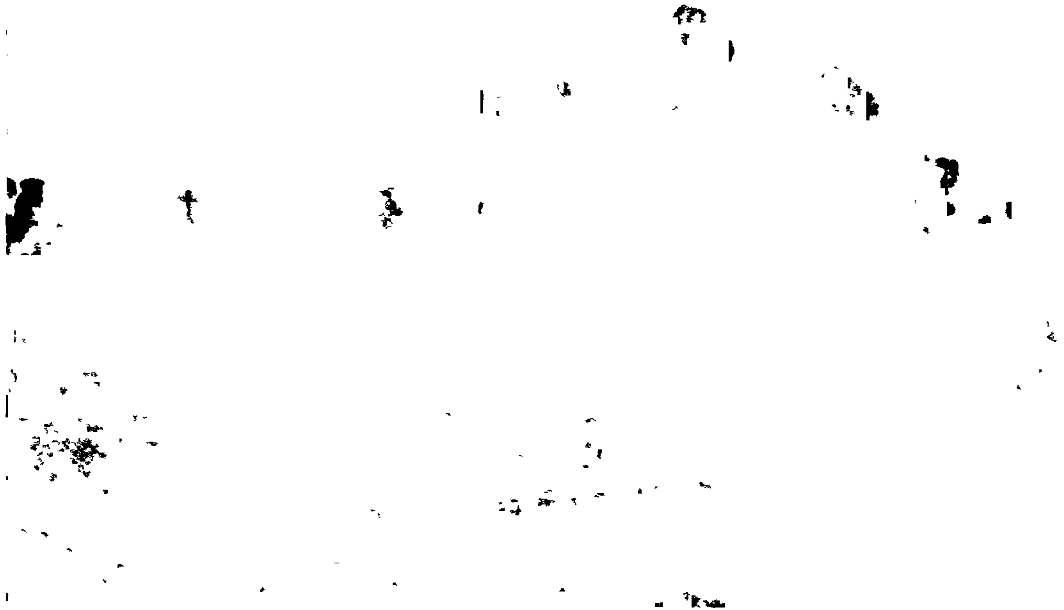
[illegible] Kota, Rana, [illegible] [illegible] School of Mediaeval Art



Dhusdhar Waterfall, about 10 miles from Sasaram



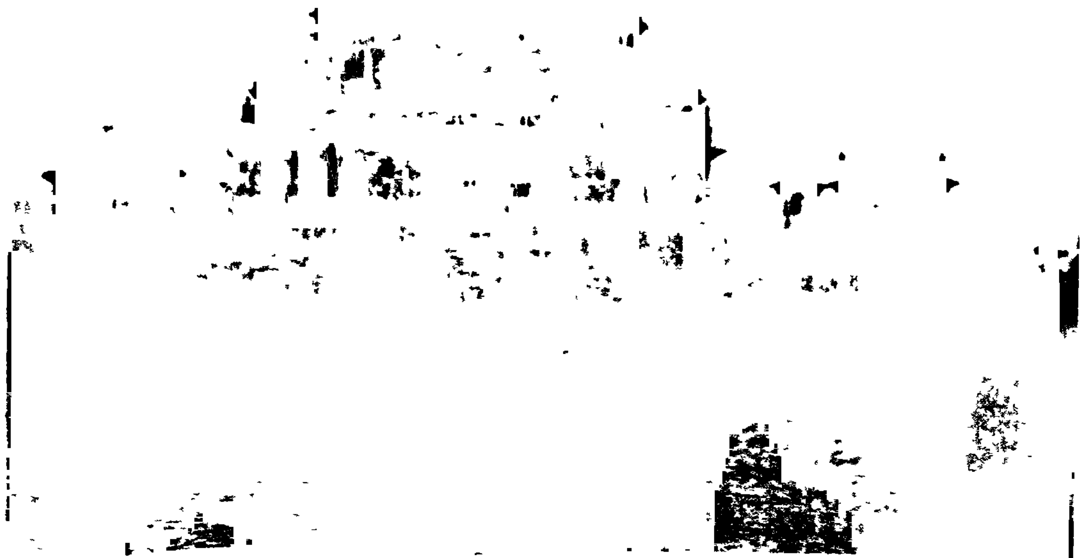
A'wal K... s tomb



Ruins of Navratan said to be built by Raja Bhoj in Dumraon P. S.



Salim Sur's tomb (incomplete). Last architectural undertaking of the Sur Dynasty. Salim Sah was Sher Shah's son (d. 1552)



Sher Shah's tomb at Sasaram



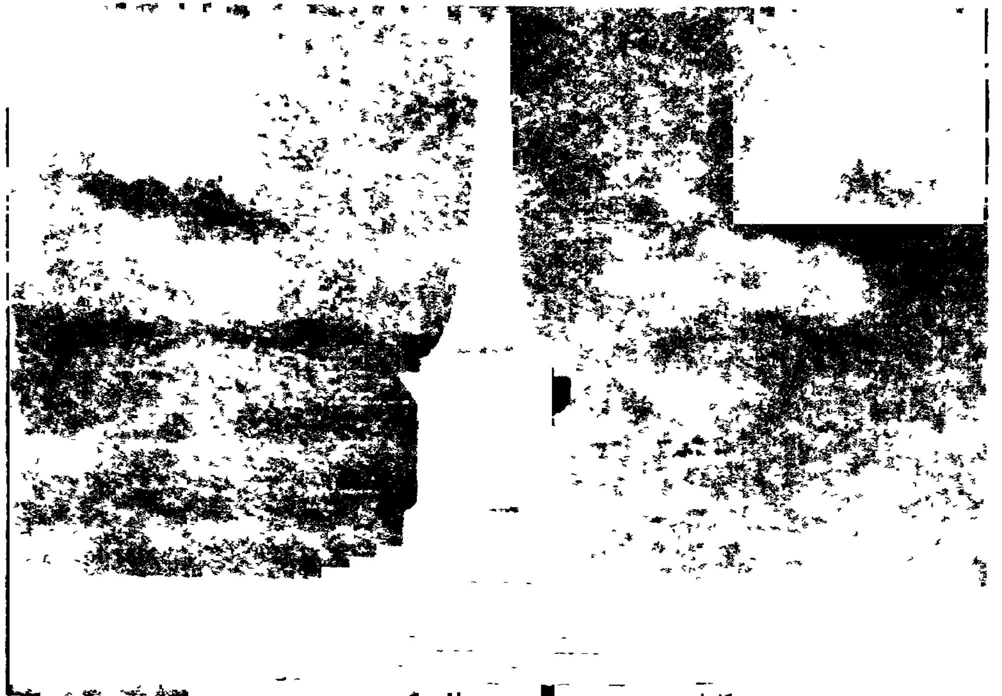
An image of Tarka demon at Buxar



An image of S[illegible] A[illegible] sp[illegible] [illegible] Pal Art



A terracotta in Basa. The style indicates Mauryan period



Monument of the Battle of Buxar



Mundeswari temple at Ramgarh (Shahabad)